



Dispute's
resolution is
all but artful

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'Mama'
lands in
Shanghai

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Storm floods kill 59



Chongqing residents struggled against rising waters Wednesday. They organized in groups to construct a flood wall and save their homes. **Page 5**

CFP Photo



A Pakistani security official examines the scene in Hub, near Karachi, Pakistan. **AP Photo**

36 dead in Pakistan bombings

Suicide bombers hit a convoy of Chinese workers in southern Pakistan and a police academy in the north yesterday, killing 36 people and wounding 54 as violence swept farther across the country.

The convoy was passing through the main bazaar in Hub, a town in Baluchistan province near the port city of Karachi, when a moving car blew up next to a police vehicle, officials said.

Hub Police Chief Ghulam Mohammed Thaib said 29 people were killed, including seven police. About 30 other people were wounded, some critically.

"It was laden with very heavy explosives, but due to our spacing and our security measures, Allah has been very kind," Maj Gen Saleem Nawaz, a commander of Pakistan's paramilitary Frontier Constabulary, said.

The police "sacrificed their lives and the Chinese friends were absolutely safe," Nawaz said on Dawn News television.

The Chinese citizens worked at a lead extraction plant in Dudhar in Baluchistan and were temporarily leaving the area for Karachi due to security concerns, police said.

Some officials suggested the bomb was remote-controlled. But Thaib and Nawaz, whose men also were guarding the minibus carrying some ten Chinese technicians and engineers, said it was a suicide attack.

Television reports showed how the blast ripped off the front of several roadside shops. Several damaged cars and buses lay rammed into one another among a tangle of bricks and clothing.

In the northwest, a suicide car bomber detonated his explosives when guards prevented him from entering the parade ground of the police academy in Hangu, 72 kilometers southwest of Peshawar.

The bomber killed six bystanders and one policeman, and another 24 people were wounded, academy chief Attaullah Wazir said. **(AP)**

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Country sorely
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South Koreans
accused of
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Country sorely lacks pro interpreters for Olympics

By Chu Meng

Crash courses in professional sports translation and interpretation are desperately needed to meet the demand for next year's Olympics, a report released by the Beijing Organizing Committee for the 2008 Olympic Games (BOCOG) shows.

The report, released this week, was conducted by the Science and Technology Translators Association of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Transn Co, the company handling translation for BOCOG's website. The report states that about 10,000 professional sports translators and inter-

preters will be needed for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

A research team surveyed about 15,000 professional translators and interpreters, including currently enrolled students who are majoring in English and those with years of interpretation experience. The team concluded that fewer than 1.3 percent of them were capable of professional sports translation. Most of the unqualified people either lacked training in interpretation or simultaneous translation or knowledge of sports terms.

Language institutes and training centers have a lot of work to do before they can meet the huge

demands of the Olympics, Li Yashu, vice chairman of the Translation Association of China, said.

"Some crash courses are needed to prepare existing translators and interpreters for the Games," Li said. "Even if we use all foreign language majors and all other professional training organizations from this minute, we will hardly be able to make it to Olympic level with only one year left to prepare."

The Olympic-related translation business is expected to generate about 700 billion yuan, according to BOCOG's research. The country has 300,000 professional translators and interpreters,

one-fourth of who live in the capital: of them, 98.4 percent specialize in English, French, German, Russian, Korean and Japanese.

The government is by far the largest user of interpretation and translation, and mostly meets its needs in-house. Almost every government entity, from the central government to provinces and municipalities, has a unit specifically in charge of dealing with the "non-Chinese" world. These are variously known as the Foreign Affairs Office, Department of International Cooperation or the Office of Foreign Economics and Trade Relations.

China's forests play role in climate control

By Huang Daoheng

The country's forests are playing a role in absorbing the world's CO₂. Since 1949, forest area has expanded from 82.80 million hectares in 1949 to 175 million this year, a senior official said Tuesday.

"The nation's forest coverage has risen constantly for almost two decades, increasing the nation's contribution to the world's carbon dioxide absorption," Zhu Lieke, deputy director of the State Forestry Administration (SFA), said during a press conference at the State Council Information Office.

China recorded an annual 1.2 percent expansion rate, or 1.8 million hectares of forest, between 1990 and 2000, Zhu said, while elsewhere in the world forests shrank by 0.2 percent, or 9.39 million hectares, each year.

China now tops the world in forestation with 54 million hectares, Jia Zhibang, head of SFA, said at the same press conference.

Every cubic meter of newly planted forest, Jia said, will absorb 1.83 tons of carbon dioxide and emit 1.62 tons of oxygen.

Since trees help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by absorbing carbon dioxide during photosynthesis, the expanded forest area means the country is playing a bigger role in mitigating global warming, Jia said.

Experts estimated China's forests currently absorb more than 500 million tons of carbon dioxide a year, or about 8 percent of the emissions from the country's use of fossil fuels, compared to 470 million tons in 1990.

While asked on recent media claims that timber imports had caused excessive logging in foreign countries, Zhu said that China is opposed to destructive logging.

He said China imports tons of wastepaper each year for use in paper-making, which constitutes 62.6 percent of total fiber supply.

"Thus, China has made a great contribution to global timber conservation," Zhu said. Imports of wastepaper saved 54.3 million metric tons of green trees from being harvested in 2006.

First marrow donation to Taiwan



Hang Bin, a 36-year-old woman from Jiangsu Province, donates marrow to a Taiwanese girl in Beijing. It is the first marrow donation case from Mainland to Taiwan. The marrow will be shipped today.

CFP Photo

Paralympic guide dog meets athletes

By Jiang Xubo

Shasha, a two-year-old female Golden Retriever, flew to the capital from her training camp in Dalian, Liaoning Province, this week to meet her prospective owners — candidates for next year's Paralympic Games.

She interviewed with five blind athletes, testing to see whether she could get accustomed to the surroundings and work well to help her prospective owners steer clear of obstacles on the road, avoid vehicles when crossing the road and lead the way to help her blind owner board a bus.

"Shasha did a good job today," Wang Xi, the trainer said, after the dog finished her interview with a male sprinter surnamed Yu, Tuesday afternoon.

The dog has to wait 10 more months before the training camp makes a final decision on which athlete will be her owner. It depends on how well she gets along with the athletes, Wang Jingyu, director of the China's guide dog training center in Dalian and training team leader, said.

Shasha, who has been trained for eight months, was not alone. Four other guide dogs, three Lab-

radors and one Golden Retriever, have received one to three months' training. They are expected to interview with potential owners later this year.

The five dogs would serve as eyes outside the fields for five blind Chinese athletes who will take part in the Paralympic Games.

Blind Chinese athletes will take part in events in track and field, judo, swimming, gateball and soccer. The number of blind athletes will remain unknown until final selections during the first half of next year, a Paralympic Games organizer said.

Man sentenced to death for kiln slavery

By Han Manman

A foreman from a kiln in north China where masses of slave workers were beaten and forced to work 18-hour days was sentenced Tuesday to life in jail. Another man was sentenced to death for beating a laborer to death.

The slave labor scandal erupted last month after hundreds of parents complained their children were

being forced to work in brick kilns in Henan and Shanxi provinces.

Heng Tinghan, the foreman of a kiln in Hongtong County, Shanxi, was convicted and sentenced to life in prison on charges of intentional injury and unlawful detention, Shanxi Provincial High Court Vice President Liu Jimin said during Tuesday's news conference. Zhao Yanbing was sentenced to

death for committing intentional injury, Liu said. The court said that he was responsible for the beating Liu Bao, a laborer, to death. Zhao previously admitted on national television to beating a mentally handicapped man to death for working too slow last November.

The Party has disciplined 95 officials at the county level or lower for malfeasance so far.

Poisons on rodents may harm environment

By Jiang Xubo

Poison topped the shopping lists of many of the residents who border Dongting Lake, Hunan Province, as local counties escalate their efforts to stem the tide of homeless rodents. But researchers from Chinese Academy of Sciences warn that mass purchase of poison might pose new risks to the environment.

The local government has distributed rice laced with poison to locals to help them curb the onslaught. Authorities in Binhu Village, two kilometers off the lake, gave out 3,000 kilograms of the tainted grain last month, and directed locals to scatter it along the lake side and nearby fields.

"It is far from enough to stop them, but our resources are tapped out," Tao Xiaoli, a villager, said. "The use of rat poison is strictly controlled. We need police approval to obtain more."

Some villagers have turned to pesticides as a substitute. However, the rains which accompany flood season will wash such efforts away in a single night.

Villagers short on poison have turned to the black market for more potent poisons, but those poisons may pose a higher risk to more than rodents.

Parts of the dead mice are strewn about fields, line ditches, and back up dikes and banks despite local efforts to gather and bury the bodies. Heavy rainfall has washed many of the rodents into hollows, and back into the lake, which contributed to an elevated plague risk in the region, according to a report from the Beijing News.

"The rat poison smuggled into the countryside is very likely to be acrid, which may threaten other animals and the environment by remaining in the soil," Li Bo, a researcher from the Hunan-based Institute of Subtropical Agriculture in the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said. "To introduce more rodent predators like snakes and weasels and to repair the lake ecosystem would be a better way to address the root of the crisis."

The rodent invasion began in late June, when waters submerged the mouse holes on islands dotting China's second-largest lake.

Experts blamed the disaster on dry seasons during the last several years, which extended the beach's dry period and provided a perfect environment for rodents to reproduce. Further upsetting the ecosystem, poachers have greatly diminished the population of the rodent's natural enemy, the snake, to satiate popular demand in local restaurants.

Kind-hearted mother or money grubber?

By Jackie Zhang

He Benying, 63, was once a moral model in Ezhou, Hubei Province, for having adopted 22 orphans since 1981. Earlier this month, she came under fire when the public and media accused her of collecting money from three of the orphans as they performed for money.

Two of the three orphans who stay with He Benying are disabled. Authorities from the local civil affairs bureau offered to send He Tianyi, one of the disabled children, to the hospital, but He Benying refused.

"We are constructing welfare centers for disadvantaged people. We also launched programs that offer free aid for orphans and disabled people. She not only refuses

our offer, but takes these orphans every day to beg so she can collect money. A truly kind-hearted mother would not do this," Wan Bin (pseudonym) from Ezhou Civil Affairs Bureau (ECAB), said. "Actually, she is afraid she will get no income if we take the child to hospital."

He Benying asserts that there are misunderstandings on both sides. "I had taken He Tianyi to the hospital before, and the doctor said it was difficult to cure his disease. The civil affairs officials lied. I can't believe them. They wouldn't allow me to accompany He Tianyi during treatment," she said.

She tried to apply for subsidies last year as a low-income family.

"If the government won't help me, then I have no choice but to ask the children to beg," He Benying said.

ECAB tells a different story. "She required us to reimburse her for the children's treatment bills. We agreed and sent the money to her home, but she changed her mind and refused to take the child to the hospital," Wan said. "It is illegal for her to keep the orphans without going through certain government procedures. If she persists, we will look to the courts to settle this," Wan said.

Instead of performance begging, the woman chose to shoulder all the debts herself and raised the orphans on her own before her story ever found media exposure in 2005.

People also doubt that He Benying adopted 22 orphans. Most of the media's investigations showed there were scarce documents to support her claim, and no one knew where the children were now, if indeed they existed. As for the three children currently living with her, only one is registered as a permanent resident of her home.

Benying, a retired kindergarten teacher, started the first private kindergarten in Ezhou, which closed in 1987 and left her family in debt.

ECAB gave its consent for adoptions carried out by people like Benying, when it failed to provide welfare aid to disadvantaged people due to scarcity in funds.

Match of crickets around the corner

By Han Manman

Zhao Boguang, one of the most famous cricket breeders in the capital, was busy with preparing this year's cricket contest, which will be held in September. About 100 cricket breeders have applied to take part in.

This year's contest will be stricter, with professional monitors to avoid rigged matches. Crickets will be divided into different levels according to their weight, Zhao, vice director of Beijing Cricket Committee, said. He has hosted 19 such events since 1988.

"We will not only select the best crickets, but crown the best cricket breeder this year," Zhao said.

Cricket season begins in September when the crickets are about a month old. Seeking "outside aid," many Beijing cricket enthusiasts have gone to Shandong Province, famous for its strong and furious crickets. Cricket prices range from one yuan to ten thousand yuan.

Fang Zu, a cricket match fan, said he has just purchased a group of crickets from Shandong Province and plans to raise them on high-protein foods like mung bean powder and egg. "I will also get some calcium supplements for my cachexia cricket," Fang said.

Foreigners also found the matches interesting. Many embassies have invited Zhao to give cricket match lessons and demonstrations every autumn. "They know it is a Chinese tradition, which dates back some 3,000 years. They want to know more about Chinese culture," Fang said. He has many fans, including the former ambassadors of Peru, the Philippines, and a counselor from the French embassy. "They even plan to organize a embassy team for next year's contest," he said.

Zhao has made great contributions to formalizing the sport. Cricket matches, originally a gambling game, suckered in many people. He said that in some gambling rings, people frequently fought with one another or committed suicide after losing big.

8-year-old girl to run across China



Zhang Huimin, an 8-year-old girl nicknamed "little magic deer" from Hainan Province, has started her running journey across the country.

The little runner plans to run all the way northwards and finally reach Beijing. The trip is expected to take two months. Zhang is currently in Foshan, Guangdong Province.

IC Photo

Lanzhou beef noodle prices stay fixed

By Annie Wei

Local authorities in charge of price inspection in Lanzhou, Gansu Province, released a new price ceiling for beef noodles in response to consumer complaints, which had become the focus of controversy nationwide.

Local residents complained that the price of one bowl of Lanzhou beef noodles had climbed three yuan, following the trend of food prices nationwide.

On June 26, the Lanzhou Price Administration, Industry and Commerce Bureau and Lanzhou Beef Noodle Industry Association did a rating of 780 beef noodle restaurants and set a ceiling price for different levels of shops. Average beef noodle restaurants are not allowed to charge more than 2.5 yuan for a large bowl, and no more than 2.3 yuan for a small bowl.

Li Fating, vice director of Lanzhou Price Administration, said

the policy is aimed at preventing a spike in the price of one of the city's staple foods.

Although unhappy with national media reports and suspicion about the policy's effects, local government had decided to uphold it, Li said.

Residents said the government policy makes sure beef noodles are affordable for everyone, but many beef noodle vendors found it damaging to their business.

Ma Junli, who has run a beef noodle restaurant for over ten years in Xigu District, Lanzhou, said he goes to work every morning at 4:30am. "We wake up so early and go home so late everyday - we cannot run a business that is losing money," Ma said.

"When every raw material for making the noodles takes a price hike, why shouldn't the end product?" Ma wonders. He said a half kilogram of beef has jumped from

7.5 yuan to 9.8 yuan in only six months. His monthly tax bill has also jumped from last year's 977 yuan to 1,445 yuan this year.

When setting the price, Li said they researched the basic costs in local restaurants, but many vendors feel the price is being fixed artificially low.

According to research, each beef noodle restaurant pays 13 yuan in taxes. But according to the local tax bureau, the average daily taxes generated by noodle shops in Xigu District should be 22.8 yuan.

Lanzhou beef noodles are the most well-known regional noodle in the country. It plays an important role in Lanzhou locals' daily lives. The city consumes around 800,000 bowls of beef noodles every day, and the average annual sales revenue can hit 700 million yuan, CCTV's report said.

To locals, the beef noodle restaurants are public canteens.

Ducky Armada washes ashore in England

By Zhao Hongyi

Retired teacher Penny Harris never expected to be the first to discover a China-made rubber duck floating from the Pacific while she was walking her dog on a Devon beach between Woolacombe and Putsborough, Southwest England, the *Daily Mail* reports.

The duck is likely the first of many, which are headed straight for Britain. It is expected that they will be spotted on beaches in Southwest England late this summer.

Penny sent the duck to The First Years Inc in the US, the original importer of the ducks, who claimed they would buy back the ducks at US\$100 each from the US, Canada and Iceland four years ago.

The ducks are becoming more precious to collectors. On eBay, the toy ducks have climbed to US\$1,000.

On January 10, 1992, as many as 28,000 plastic, yellow ducks, blue turtles, red beavers and green frogs that were intended to be bath toys were washed off the deck of a merchant ship bound for the US while in the central Pacific Ocean.

Most quickly scattered south and washed up on the Pacific shores of South America, Australia and Indonesia. Around 10,000, however, drifted north, to Alaska and Japan and even into the Arctic Ocean, where they covered 17,000 miles while frozen into the shifting sea ice, eventually melting free in the North Atlantic.

The ducks first caught the eyes of two scientists, W James Ingraham and Curtis Ebbesmeyer, who believe that the rubber ducks could help advance their studies of global ocean currents. They have been tracking the ducks for years and used computer models to predict their routes and urged everyone to report any located ducks.

Brief news

Surge in GDP

The country's gross domestic product (GDP) hit some 10.7 trillion yuan in the first half of this year, up 11.5 percent on the same period of last year, Li Xiaochao, spokesman for the National Bureau of Statistics, said yesterday.

342 cases of illegal residence

A total of 342 people, including foreigners and residents from Taiwan Province, were fined for illegal residence during the first half of this year because of expired passports and delayed renewals, up some 17 percent on that of last year, spokesmen for the Beijing General Station of Exit and Entry Frontier Inspection announced this week.

10,000 drivers blacklisted for speeding, drunk driving

The Beijing Traffic Management Bureau announced the setup of data base containing records of 10,000 drivers who broke traffic regulations, including over 2,000 people guilty of speeding and over 7,000 of drunk driving.

Surge in pork price

Pork's wholesale price surged 75 percent last month over the same period of last year, spokesmen for the Ministry of Agriculture announced this week.

(By Jiang Xubo)



The children of artists were born and raised in Songzhuang.

Taking a one-hour bus trip from downtown, I arrived at the Xiaopu Village, where several of the prosecuted artists discussed the latest lawsuit in a studio on Wednesday.

In the Painters' Courtyard, I met Li Yulan, who lost the first case. According to the judgment, the contract between Li and the accuser is invalid, and Li will get a compensation of 93,808 yuan for moving out of the house. She has decided to appeal the sentence and will present the petition to the court before next Wednesday.

As well as Li Yulan, the other eleven artists in Songzhuang have been targeted for the purchase of houses based on rural housing land since last October.

The sellers alleged the contracts of the housing purchase they signed with the artists several years ago are invalid, because under Chinese laws and regulations the transition of the rural housing land has strict limits: rural housing land could only be used for building the house, and its transition is permitted among the villagers in the same village.

Rural housing land, the core of disputes

Since the mid-1990s, at least 1,500 artists, art dealers and collectors, critics and curators from home and abroad have settled in the 47 villages under the Songzhuang Township, particularly in the Xiaopu Village. Today Songzhuang is widely recognized as one of the largest original artists' communities in China.

The first group of artists in Songzhuang bought the houses from the villagers in 1994. Among these 1,500 artists, almost 200 bought the houses, and the others have rented villagers' houses.

The rural housing land is the root of the housing disputes. The land is owned by the country but provided to the farmers for them to build a house. Its transition has strict limits in China's law and regulations.

"During the draft of the Property Law, some experts considered relaxing rural housing transitions, but the legislature worried that the villagers would become homeless if they didn't have their own houses," Yang Lixin, a law professor

By He Jianwei

Twelve artists in Songzhuang, Tongzhou District, have been sued over a housing dispute between them and the villagers since October. The first case was announced and the artist lost on July 10.

After hearing the court's decision, the other artists began to worry about their own future. They have brought attention to Songzhuang, but what will Songzhuang bring to the artists?

Tug-of-war between artists, villagers

The housing disputes in Songzhuang

from Renmin University, said.

Li Yulan bought a house in Xindian Village from the accuser Ma Haitao at the price of 45,000 yuan in 2002. The floor space of the house is more than 400 square meters including a living space of over 100 square meters and a courtyard of 375 square meters.

"It was an idle house when I bought it, even without a gate in front of the courtyard," Li said. After she bought it, Li put money into repairing the house and built three rooms in the west end of the courtyard.

"The money I've spent on the house over these five years is more than 120,000 yuan, but the value is only assessed at 93,808 yuan," she said.



The art has given Songzhuang more fame and increased housing costs.

Profitability, the cause of disputes

Last year, Songzhuang was enlisted into the Ten Bases of Culture Industry in Beijing that concentrates on the development of the contemporary art and cartoon industries. With the Songzhuang Culture Festival held, Songzhuang has become more and more known both at home and abroad.

"According to the statistics, the economic aggregate in Xiaopu Village reached 350 million yuan last year, among which the transaction in the auction of artistic works has reached 200 million yuan," Rao Yunfeng, assistant to general manager of Songzhuang Art Promotion Association of Tongzhou District of Beijing, said.

He believed the villagers might see the potential value of the houses in Songzhuang now, so they were eager to take their houses back. "In the Xiaopu Village, the one-year

rent for a house with three or four rooms was only 3,000 to 4,000 yuan three years ago; while the rent has reached more than 15,000 yuan this year," Rao said.

Wang Lize is one of the artists being prosecuted among the twelve. He bought a house from another artist at the price of 66,000 yuan in 2003. The original seller asked Wang to move out of the house because of the invalid contract and took Wang to court with the other artists last October.

Wang said most of the houses were old and deserted, and the villagers had their own settlement when the artists bought the houses from them. They bought the houses at a price that was higher than market value at that time. "The artists have brought fame and economic profits to Songzhuang. If all the artists move out of here,



In Yang Dawei, one of the prosecuted artists' studio.

Photos by Tian Yufeng

Resolving the disputes by relaxing the regulations

The town government hoped the villagers could sell the idle houses to the artists. "The transaction of houses between the villagers and the artists is a good way to liquidize idle assets and to increase the farmers' income," Hu Jiebao, the party committee secretary of Songzhuang, said.

"We have a certain quantity of old houses in which the villagers don't live any more with some of them on the verge of collapse. I sold my house to my neighbor at the price of 5,000 yuan years ago," he said.

As for the judgment of Li Yulan's case, Hu believed the court did not handle it properly. The transactions between the villagers and the artists were relatively fair, so the court's decision was encouraging the accuser's dishonesty.

Hu also appealed the legislature to clarify the related laws and regulations which guarantee the villagers' transaction of the land.

"China has considered relaxing the laws and regulations about the transition of rural housing. 'The central government is experimenting with some new regulations for Guangdong province, Jiangsu province and Shanghai,'" Rao said.

"The housing disputes in Songzhuang reflect the contradictions evident for the rural housing land. We hope Songzhuang could be an experimental town for more relaxed laws and regulations in Beijing as soon as possible," he said.

Li Yulan says she will remain focused on her appeal against the sentence. "Maybe the court will insist that the contract is invalid, but I hope they could make a reasonable compensation for my family to choose another settlement," she said.



OECD highlights nation's air pollution problem

Beijing (ft.com) – China's air pollution will cause 20 million people per year to fall ill with respiratory diseases, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development estimated on Tuesday. The Paris-based club of industrialised countries said China was not doing enough to combat widespread and serious environmental degradation and should "redouble efforts" to implement laws and policies.

By 2020, the report forecast, pollution would cause "600,000 premature deaths in urban areas,

nine million person-years of work lost due to pollution-related illness, 20 million cases of respiratory illness a year, 5.5 million cases of chronic bronchitis and health damage" which could cost 13 percent of the gross domestic product.

"Rapid economic development, industrialisation and urbanisation have generated severe and growing pressures on the environment," Mario Amano, OECD deputy secretary-general, said.

The report contains 51 recommendations including a

call for greater "environmental democracy."

China's health ministry and the State Environmental Protection Agency earlier this year demanded that the World Bank remove mortality calculations from a report on the country's air and water pollution. The government argued the numbers could trigger "social unrest," bank advisers and Chinese officials told the Financial Times.

But on Tuesday, a senior Chinese official defended Beijing's decision, arguing the data was based

on faulty methodology. "Estimating the number of people killed by air pollution is very complicated and hard to calculate on a scientific basis," Zhou Jian, a vice minister of Sepa, said.

The controversy over the World Bank report has highlighted government concerns over the environmental cost of breakneck growth. GDP figures due on Wednesday are expected to show the economy grew at an annual rate of 11 percent in the second quarter of this year.

Bars in capital told to 'shut up or shut down'

Beijing (Reuters) – The authorities in Beijing have promised frazzled residents of a popular lakeside entertainment district a good night's sleep if they report noise pollution from rowdy bars and clubs, local media reported.

Residents around Shichahai have watched in bemusement over the last few years as their formerly tranquil communities have been transformed into neon-festooned bar districts complete with blaring music and throngs of pub-crawlers.

Starting Saturday, Shichahai night-spots drawing noise-related complaints from neighbors will be shut down by police, a local newspaper reported.

Police would also confiscate speakers placed outside bars to promote their businesses, it said, adding that pub owners would have to "gradually tone down" the noise from music and patron-soliciting touts between the hours of 8pm and 1am.

Gov cracks down on teen Internet gaming hours

Hong Kong (AP) – The government has launched a campaign to limit the number of hours teenagers spend online playing games.

Under the new rules that took effect Monday, domestic Internet gaming companies must install a program that requires users to enter their ID card numbers. After three hours, players under 18 are prompted to stop and "do suitable physical exercise."

If they continue, the software slashes by half any points earned in the game. All points are wiped out if players stay on more than five hours.

The program is part of a government campaign to combat Internet gaming addiction, "clean up the Internet environment" and "promote civilized Internet use," according to guidelines issued by China's General Administration of Press and Publication.

Country urged to rein in vulgar, sexist TV ads

Beijing (Reuters) – Domestic television channels must ban sexist and sexually suggestive advertisements during the summer vacation period to protect children, state broadcaster CCTV said Monday, citing experts and parents.

Explicit commercials that promote breast enlargements, women's corsets and cosmetics and unproven medical treatments are common on local stations.

Many parents would rather send their children to summer camp or sports training during the summer holiday than let them stay at home and watch television, CCTV said.

China has been trying to clean up commercials on its plethora of local television stations, especially those advertising miracle cures or ways to attract the opposite sex.

China storms kill at least 59 amid record rainfall and swelling rivers



Flooding made Bishan county in Chongqing an isolated "island" this week, with its traffic, communications and power supply blocked. Some 1,000 people were besieged by the flood.

CFP Photo

Shanghai (AP) – Torrential rains, mud flows and lightning strikes have killed at least 59 people in China this week, Xinhua reported Thursday.

Twenty-two people were killed when rainstorms hit Jinan, Shandong Province, on Wednesday night, Xinhua reported. Six people were missing and 142 were injured.

The city and surrounding area

received a record 18 centimeters of rainfall over three hours, the report said. The storm disrupted traffic and cut off electricity and water supply, the city government said, according to Xinhua reports.

Earlier in the week, mudslides left 32 people dead, five missing and 128 injured on the outskirts of western Chongqing city, where 27 centimeters of rain fell between Monday night and

Tuesday afternoon – the largest volume since records began in 1892, Xinhua reported.

Landslides and lightning killed five others in neighboring Sichuan Province, Xinhua said.

Traffic was gridlocked on the narrow streets of Chongqing, a hilly city that spans the Yangtze 1,600 kilometers west of where the river flows into the Pacific Ocean near Shanghai. Rain con-

tinued to fall on the city Wednesday and photos showed cars and buses mired in floodwaters up to their windshields.

Floods, a perennial problem in China, have killed more than 233 people and destroyed more than 118,000 homes so far this year, the national flood control office said. Millions of people in central and southern China live on reclaimed farmland on flood plains of rivers.

Fines imposed for compnies' work accident cover-ups

Beijing (AFP) – The government will impose hefty fines on companies for covering up work accidents, Xinhua reported Wednesday, in the latest move to strengthen the country's weak regulatory oversight.

Companies could be fined up to five million yuan (US\$661,000) if they are caught deliberately hiding the truth, the news agency reported.

Any move to deliberately tamper with an accident site, transfer and hide evidence, give false testimony, or flee the scene will incur fines.

Penalties will equal 80 percent of a company's annual income for failure to organize timely rescue operations and 40 to 60 percent for covering up accidents or delaying a report.

The country has a disastrous work safety record.

Last year, work-related accidents killed 320 people a day, the government has said, many in the country's coal mines, which are considered the most dangerous in the world.

More than 4,700 coal mine workers were killed last year, according to official figures.

Beijing plans to fire rockets to disperse rain clouds

Beijing (AP) – The weathermen in Beijing are going ahead with plans to fire rockets to disperse rain clouds, an experiment aimed at guaranteeing sunshine during next year's Olympics.

Zheng Guoguang, head of China's Meteorological Administration, said practice drills were ready to begin, the *China Daily* reported Tuesday.

The drills will simulate what will be done when the Games open August 8, 2008, Zheng said. This summer is the last chance for meteorologists to practice under similar weather conditions, he said.

Chinese officials have said historical records show there's a 50 percent chance of rain for the opening ceremony – and the same probability of rain during the closing ceremony.

Last month a top-ranking weather official acknowledged that seeding clouds to produce rain – or dispersing rainmaking clouds – was immature technology.

"Dispersal is more difficult than rainfall enhancement," Wang Yubin, assistant chief engineer with the Beijing Meteorological Bureau, said. "In rainfall dispersal, we are still in the experimental stage."

Gulf investor signs US\$5 billion plan for Beijing oil center

Beijing (AP) – A Bahrain-based developer announced a US\$5 billion plan to build a business center for the oil industry in the eastern suburb of Beijing.

The project is still waiting for the Chinese government approval and could become the biggest Middle Eastern investment in China, said Esam Yousif Janahi, chief executive officer of Gulf Finance House, its main backer.

The oil center, dubbed the International Energy City and located in Sanhe, a city on the domestic capital's eastern outskirts, aims to attract foreign and domestic oil companies with a business park, a Chinese-Arab business school, laboratories and executive housing, Janahi said. He said it could be completed within five years.

Janahi and a Sanhe city official signed a letter of intent to begin

developing the project. He said a construction timetable and other details were being worked out.

Gulf Finance House and a group of partners are developing similar energy industry centers in Qatar in the Gulf and near Mumbai, India's commercial capital.

The Beijing project has no tenants committed yet but the bank is talking to companies in its other projects, Janahi said. He

said financing is expected to come from a group of several hundred Gulf investors who have backed its other projects.

China is the world's No 2 oil consumer, with demand rising by about seven percent a year. Imports soared by 11.2 percent in the first half of this year, according to the government. Chinese companies are stepping up efforts to find new domestic reserves.

Fast-food prices soar

By Chu Meng

Foreign fast-food giant KFC will raise the prices on many of its products across the country starting Monday. The move is a response to soaring material costs. Many domestic fast-food chains have raised their prices for the same reason.

Items on the KFC menu will raise from 0.5 to 1.0 yuan, including chicken burgers, desserts and drinks. It will be the second price increase since December to balance out increases in the price of meats and other materials.

Popular domestic chains such as Li-Hua Fast-Food, Kung Fu Fast-Food, Origus Pizza, Hong-zhuangyuan Porridge and the Meizhou Dongpo Restaurant have already raised their prices from 0.5 – 4.0 yuan on each item.

"The soaring prices of raw materials are the main cause of catering industry price hikes since January," an official from the State Development and Reform Commission said.

Another survey, jointly conducted by the China Youth Daily and Qtick.com, asked about food price concerns, and discovered that 90.9 percent of respondents agreed they had been affected by the rising prices. Seventy-eight percent claimed that the rise has impacted their consumption interests negatively.

Wal-Mart to double stores

Beijing (Bloomberg) – Wal-Mart Stores Inc plans to double its stores in China in the next five years.

Wal-Mart has 84 stores across 46 Chinese cities. It expects to have a 20 percent share of the country's retail market with the expansion, said Terrence Cullen, Wal-Mart's vice president of China operations.

Wal-Mart is considering buying all or part of Beijing Hualian Hypermarket Co. Wal-Mart agreed to buy a stake in Chinese retailer Trust-Mart in February.

"The quickest way to do it is to buy into local retailers – it all depends on what price they have to pay for it," said Anthony Teoh, a Hong Kong-based analyst who covers retailers at South China Finance & Management Co.

China, US to discuss detained seafood exports

Beijing (Reuters) – China and the United States will hold five days of talks in Beijing this month over Chinese seafood exports detained for harmful residues, Xinhua news agency said.

Chinese products ranging from toys and tires to medicines and toothpastes have received bannings and restrictions from the US.

The US Food and Drug Agency said on June 28 that their inspectors have found certain banned veterinary drugs and food additives in Chinese farm-raised catfish, basa, shrimp, dace and eel.

China has protested to the United States saying that an indiscriminate ban against all exports of such seafood products was unacceptable and has hinted protectionism of some local US seafood farmers might be behind the ban.

Chinese officials have complained about what they said was unfair international media coverage that highlighted isolated failings as the whole picture of China's surging exports and manufacturing industry propped up by cheap labor.

The World Health Organization officials said in Geneva on Tuesday that China should not be singled out for particular concern over food safety, a big problem that rich and poor countries alike must tackle through better regulation.

Wheeling, dealing in RSA



A client sat in a Gonow pickup truck in Johannesburg, South Africa, Wednesday.

The Zhejiang-based Gonow Auto is selling four types of its pickup at 43 locations through-

out the African nation.

The trucks have been receiving a lot of buzz due to their competitive prices.

Xinhua Photo

US airlines seek routes in China

By Zhao Hongyi

Several US airlines have expressed interest to open or expand non-stop service to China.

US Airways said that it wants to offer nonstop service between its Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, hub and Beijing.

Continental Airlines, which already offers nonstop flights from Newark, New Jersey, to Beijing

wants to expand with a Newark-Shanghai route.

A spokesman for Delta Air Lines Inc said the company is applying to operate nonstop flights from its Atlanta hub to both Beijing and Shanghai.

Northwest Airlines Corp filed this week for rights to operate nonstop flights between Detroit and two Chinese cities.

American Airlines today filed an application to offer daily non-stop service between Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Illinois, and Beijing.

The US government is discussing with China for an expanded civil aviation arrangement. The US Department of Transportation plans six new routes that will open between 2007 and 2009.

Electrolux debuts new small appliances this summer

Creative Life, Thinking of You

伊萊克斯地面维护及小家电
7~2008新品发布与未来展望

Electrolux Floor Care & Small Appliances CHINA
2007~2008 Product Launch & Outlook



Morten Falkenberg, president of Electrolux floorcare and small appliances at the launch ceremony

"Thinking of you," a news conference on Electrolux's new 2007-2008 product line of floorcare and small appliances and future development, was held in the Shanghai Jing'an Hilton by Electrolux, a Swedish appliance producer.

Morten Falkenberg, the global president of Electrolux floorcare and small appliance, as well as Zheng Shoulun, president of Electrolux floor cleaning and small appliances in China, hosted the conference.

As a global leader in home appliances, Electrolux floorcare

and small appliances remains one of the top three bestselling appliance brands in the world.

The company always puts the needs of consumers first in the fiercely competitive home appliance market. Based on extensive consumer insight, Electrolux provides human-oriented products for all the consumers.

Morten Falkenberg said there is a story behind every new product. Electrolux researchers visit customers, looking, consulting and listening around the world. This principle not only applies to

consumers, but also to the strategy of "Thinking of you," as well as every relevant part of Electrolux, our providers, partners and employers.

The Ergorapido Handheld Vacuum Cleaner is compact and flowing in design. Aside from its good looking design, it is practical, and is fitted with a wide floor nozzle. The floor nozzle enables users to clean floors and furniture without sucking up carpeting and tablecloths. The handle and small shape also make it easy and convenient to carry.



Concern over excess smoking on TV show

By He Jianwei

A popular Chinese TV series *Shanghai Grand 2007*, which centers around brotherhood, power and betrayal during the 1920s and 30s in Shanghai, has received high ratings this summer but has led to controversy.

"Except for a few actresses, most of the characters in this series smoke, they even smoke when one of the characters is dying. The image of holding a cigarette in their mouths has led to teenagers imitating them," Wu Yiqun, an expert for a Think-Tank Research Center for Health Development (TTH), said on a forum for promoting no-smoking environments.

The participants of the forum, including doctors, professors and journalists, all signed their names on a petition to the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television (SARFT) and hoped the SARFT would consider marking these types of TV series with overt smoking scenes with an R-rating.

According to the draft, 36 percent of films and TV series have had scenes of smoking over the last two years.

In *Shanghai Grand 2007*, the cigarette has become the most important part of this series. A lot of teenagers believe the scenes of actors' smoking are quite cool and fashionable.

"Our international counterparts made moves toward smokeless films and TV series, so we hope the SARFT will put R-rating on when they consider movie ratings," she said.

As a private research organization, TTH completely follows a new concept, a new mechanism and a new model of operation and is now formally licensed by the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs. Aiming at serving health to the public, TTH commits itself to the promotion of new concepts, new technology and new methodologies in health areas.



Comment

New generation of smokers

My husband, my son and I used to watch Shanghai Grand 2007 every night. My husband told the story of the old edition of Shanghai Grand, broadcast in 1980, to my son, and my son began to be fond of the actor's roles. But these days, my son always holds a straw in his mouth and imitates the actor's smoking. I worry about the influence of this TV series and it is now prohibited in my family. What will this TV series bring to us? Future smokers?

— Qianshanmuxue

Not like real life

I'm a smoker, but I think the actors in the TV show smoke too much. In almost every scene, an actor will smoke. How did their lungs endure? I don't see people smoke this much in everyday life. I think this TV show has little in common with reality.

— vague 338

Projecting sadness

Although the director wanted to express the melancholy in the lead actor's character, he did succeed. Furthermore, the actor has said that he often feels dizzy because he has to smoke so much to properly perform his role. I don't think smoking is the only way to express someone's blue mood.

— littlefool

Being accurate

If the actors didn't smoke in Shanghai Grand 2007, it wouldn't be accurate to the times. People who watch the show will not become heavy smokers because of excessive smoking scenes. I believe that people watching will still make rational decisions.

— wensyj

Trend-setters

It is a popular TV series in China and what the actors do in the series will become fashionable among young people. Of course, the excessive smoking scenes will draw some people into becoming smokers. The creators of the series should take this into consideration.

— ssttm



CFP Photo

Starbucks leaves the Forbidden City

The controversy over Starbucks at Beijing's 587-year-old Forbidden City came to an end.

Starbucks finally closed its 200-square-foot coffeehouse in the Forbidden City last Friday, the company said, ending a presence that sparked online protestors that said it undermined the solemnity of the former imperial palace and trampled on Chinese culture.

The move, according to the *Beijing Youth Daily*, follows the Forbidden City's management decision that all shops on its grounds should be operated under the palace's own brand.

Starbucks was offered the option of becoming part of a combined outlet with other beverage brands all sold under the Palace Museum name, in the end, finally chose to leave.

It opened in 2000 at the invitation of palace managers, and was a popular resting spot for visitors. However, it attracted criticism from the start. The company agreed shortly after opening to lower its profile by removing its exterior sign.

Protests were led by Rui Chenggang, an anchor for China Central Television's English-language channel, saying the coffeehouse diminished Chinese culture.

As the past home to 24 emperors and currently China's top tourist attraction, the palace is in the midst of a renovation, due to last through 2020. That includes removing a five-story archive museum and toning down commercial symbols. The number of shops on its grounds has been cut from 37 to 17.

(Source: *The Associate Press* and *chinadaily.com*)

Comment

Sale forbidden

By next year's May holiday, shops within the palace will only be allowed to sell Forbidden City brands.

The Forbidden City itself will develop many products, mostly culture-related, under 200 yuan a piece.

— Li Wenru, vice-president, the palace management board

A congenial decision

There were several choices, one of which was to continue, but it would not carry the Starbucks name any more. We decided at the end that it is not our custom worldwide to have stores that have any other name, so we decided the choice would be to leave.

Nevertheless, it was a very congenial decision. We respect what they are doing.

— Eden Woon, Vice-President, Starbucks Greater China

Preserve culture

It may have been just a business choice for Starbucks, but the important thing is for the palace management board to figure out an effective way to preserve the palace ambience.

— Wang Xiongjun, a sociology scholar, Peking University

Impossible to eliminate all big names

Coca-cola and Kodak films, too, are sold in the palace. It's impossible and irrational to sweep all of them out. They reflect cultural pluralism.

— Liu Yu, local resident

All shops out

I think it would be more proper if all shops in the Forbidden City were moved to a location outside the walls. The Forbidden City is of great historic importance. Shops of any kind take away the beauty of the palace. I think it is very important to retain the original beauty of all such historical sites.

— David

All about business

It is not about culture, but about business! We should not mix politics or culture with business. A better way to deal with this issue: if you don't want Starbucks to remain in some place just increase the rent until something happens!

— George

(By Huang Daohen)

South Koreans accused of underground gambling ring

By Huang Daohan

Two South Koreans, Hyon Dong Heon and Kim Kyung Huan, were accused of organizing Chinese citizens for gambling trips to south Korea, the Beijing Second Intermediate People's Court confirmed on Wednesday.

Over the last two years, Kim and Hyon were suspected of having organized 85 Chinese citizens to come to the casino hotel that they worked for in south Korea, a procurator surnamed Chen from the people's court said.

Hyon, 31, and Kim, 26, were former staff at the Lotte Hotel, located on south Korea's Jeju Island. According to the prosecution allegation, Hyon was first dispatched by the Korea-based casino hotel to Beijing at the beginning of 2004.

Hyon then organized or recruited Chinese citizens, through text messages, phone calls, or through print advertisements, to go to south Korea to gamble.

During his stay in China,

Hyon, together with a few of his associates, organized for over 60 Chinese citizens to gamble at the Lotte Hotel, but under the veil of tourism. Last August, Kim was also dispatched by the hotel to assist Hyon with business expansion in Beijing. With the assistance of Kim, Hyon led another group of 25 Chinese citizens to the hotel earlier this year.

The People's Court believes that Hyon and Kim have disregarded Chinese law by organiz-

ing Chinese citizens to gamble abroad for the purpose of profit and that this applies to the crime of gambling. The court has therefore accused Hyon and Kim, and sent a copy of the indictment to them this week.

The call made to Hyon for an interview went unanswered, and the spokesman for Lotte Hotel denied having dispatched Hyon and Kim to Beijing.

However, the two have gotten a lawyer, the *Beijing Times* reported Tuesday.



Carolanne Weidle

Photo provided by China Performance Arts Agency

Mamma of Mamma Mia warms up

By Gan Tian

Carolanne Weidle, well-known for her portrayal of Mamma in the hit musical *Mamma Mia*, flew from Shanghai to Beijing on Monday to prepare for the upcoming shows in Beijing that begin on August 7.

This is the first time the actress has been to Beijing. She showed off her talented skills at the Radisson SAS Hotel, singing two of ABBA's most famous songs: "Money Money Money," and "The Winner Takes All".

Compared with her role in the musical, Weidle joked that she surely knew who was the father of her children. In the musical, her role as Donna is a strong independent single-mother. However, in reality she was a woman with a great family concept. "I took my family with me to China. My mother even flew over from New Zealand," she said.

She gave a guess on the ending of *Mamma Mia*. She predicted that in ten years, the main characters, Sophie and Sky, would get married, have children and live happily ever after.

"The role helps me to understand my family relationship, though Donna and I are different people and live different lives, I have my own daughter, and we also have terrible fights. On the other side, I am my mother's daughter and I know how to keep on our relationship," she said.

Mamma Mia is a warm musical story of family and relationships, all played against the background of some of pop's best written and most memorable songs from ABBA.

'Next Maradona' makes first trip to capital

By Han Manman

Argentinean soccer star Lionel Messi, who has been called Argentina's 'next' Maradona will start his two-day visit to China tomorrow.

The 20-year-old striker for FC Barcelona will make his first stop in Beijing tomorrow and will then travel to Jinan, Guangzhou, Shenzhen to have a chance to meet his adoring Chinese fans.

The striker is very excited about the trip and said one of the reasons he began playing soccer was the opportunity to see the world, with the China tour making one of his dreams come true.

His trip is a warm up for FC Barcelona China tour. As part of the celebrations of the one-year countdown to the 2008 Olympics, FC Barcelona will tour China from August 3 to 6 and play with Beijing Guo'an in a friendly match here on August 5.

Some of his famous teammates, including Ronaldinho and Samuel Eto'o, are also expected to play in the friendly match.

Foreigner nabbed with fake visa

By Han Manman

A Senegalese traveler was captured by Beijing police Tuesday when he attempted to enter Beijing with a fake Chinese visa. It was the first case of foreigner arrested in Beijing for trying to use fake visas to enter the country.

On Tuesday afternoon at Beijing international airport, when the police at Beijing Federal Station of Exit and Entry Frontier Inspection (BFSEFI) were dealing with entry procedures, a Senegalese passenger attracted the police's attention for his dubious-looking visa.

The police immediately took the man for questioning. He only said that his name was Mike (alias), and that he wanted to go to Guangzhou to do some small commodity business. Mike said his brother is in Guangzhou and always told him that China was a heaven for small commodity business. As a person from a developing country, he dreamed of going to China to do business and earn a lot of money.

He said he failed to get a Chinese visa, so, he purchased a



Mike (right) was captured as he attempted to enter Beijing with a fake Chinese visa.

Photo provided by Du Jianjun

fake one for a high price from an international dealer, but it obviously wasn't up to par.

Du Jianjun, vice director of BFSEFI repatriation department said Mike's fake visa was very smooth on the surface, but China's visa is made from cotton paper and feels like the currency.

"Mike was immediately sent back his country. He cooperated with us fully and told us everything. He is very friendly and even made a pose when we took his photo," Du said.

Du said the rapid development of the economy has turned many international groups'

attention to China. Currently, Guangzhou has become the main destination for people with dubious visas and passports. They have figured out how to change passport photos, use someone else's identity, and make fake visas to enter China or as a transfer to a third country.

Sydney Olympic co-director trains would-be Twelve Zodiacs actors

By Jiang Xubo

Peter Wilson, co-director of the Sydney Olympic Games Opening Ceremony held a 10-day workshop in the capital over the last two weeks, meeting actors and actresses for the Twelve Zodiacs, a children's play launched by the China Children's Art Theater (CCAT).

The Olympic director, who accepted CCAT's invitation early this year to direct the play, shared his ideas about the play and held training courses for the would-be 12 zodiac performers in the closed-door workshop.

"The Chinese performers were very intelligent. I just told them what I thought, which might just be some inspiration. But the performers provided a lot of feedback with plenty of ideas during the training. It was a process of sharing our ideas," Wilson said.

The play, which features tra-

ditional Chinese culture, was expected to open next year, during China's Year of the Rat.

Growing up in a country, whose cultural tradition features twelve constellations, the Olympic director knew quite well about the twelve Chinese zodiac signs, partly thanks to a large Chinese community in Australia. However, it seemed that he had no plans to favor actors with his own zodiac sign, the snake, over the others.

"I was thinking about how to connect these zodiac animals with modern life. Dragon was no doubt the most powerful one, but the rat would start a new round of 12 Chinese zodiac years, so we were also considering how to present more adorable rats," he said.

The director, who is well known in the industry for his spectacular visual effects, declined to recreate the animals in their nat-



Peter Wilson giving training courses at the CCAT

Photo provided by CCAT

ural life for his play, but tried to work out ways to illustrate each animal's distinctiveness. He even thought about a sheep wearing a half-done sweater, knitting it while walking on the stage, with the knitting needles on the head

as its horns.

"The young actors were a lot smarter than we thought. So I prefer to do my play in a more adult way. If the play surprises adults, I thought children would like it too," he said.

New Sudanese FVP pays visit

By Han Manman

Sudanese First Vice President Salva Kiir Mayardit arrived in Beijing Tuesday afternoon, kicking off his first official visit to China since its nomination in 2005.

Kiir is scheduled to meet with Chinese officials to discuss bilateral relations and joint cooperation, in addition to other issues of mutual concern. Lam Akol, minister of Foreign Affairs, said the

visit is important and hailed China's support of Sudan in regional and international forums, as well as its contribution to the development of war affected areas, *Xinhua* reported.

"The two sides will exchange views on strengthening bilateral relations and other issues of common concern, including the Darfur issue," Chinese Foreign Minis-

try spokesman Qin Gang said at a previous press conference.

Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Lam Akol said Monday that Sudan is keen on making the visit a success, noting the delegation would brief the Chinese officials on current developments in Sudan, the efforts for peaceful settlement of the Darfur issue and China's possible contribution in the rehabilitation and reconstruction process.

tion process.

The six-day visit will also take Mayardit to Shanghai and the Chongqing Municipality.

President Hu Jintao invited the First-Vice President Salva Kiir to visit the country to discuss Southern Sudan development during his visit to Sudan in February 2007. Salva Kiir visited Beijing before the signing of the CPA.

International printmaking exhibit opens

By Jackie Zhang

The first Canada-organized International Printmaking Exhibition opened yesterday at the red gate gallery. It will remain open until the end of this month.

As many as 56 internationally recognized printmakers from six countries, including 20 from Canada, will participate. The exhibit, previously shown in Canada, Japan and most recently in South Korea, is presented by the Maritimes and Atlantic Printmakers Society (MAAPS). Other exhibiting nations include China, Japan, South Korea, the UK and the US. It is the first international fine arts exhibition organized by MAAPS.

It does not have a theme, but is instead a celebration of technical, artistic and cultural diversity. Most print works on display have never been exhibited outside Canada.

"China is part of a three Asian nations' tour of the exhibition, and, since paper making and printmaking – especially woodblock printmaking – find their origins in China, it made perfect sense to include it as part of our schedule," Peter MacWhirter, exhibition coordinator from MAAPS, said.

Although printmaking is not that popular in China, MacWhirter remains optimistic.

"People everywhere should appreciate that printmaking, and more specifically bookmaking, are historically significant in the dissemination of information to the masses. The result of this history is that printmakers are known to address issues and ideas, pictorially, that are relevant to people."

Rudolf Bickers is one of the Canadian artists. "His ditych image entitled, 'Ludwig,' is part of an impressive series of images that are leather bound in book form. Bickers is himself an accomplished cello player," MacWhirter said.

By Jackie Zhang

British students are bound for Beijing this summer as part of a summer camp program, Chinese Summer School. The two-week course will attempt to cover all-round Chinese culture education.

A total of over 660 British students arrived in China last Sunday for this year's summer camp. Only 224 were bound for Beijing - the others will attend camps in Shanghai, Kunming and Nanhai. Organized by the British Council, it is the sixth summer camp held in China since 2001.

The camp will give the students courses in Chinese language, tai chi, Peking opera mask painting, calligraphy and painting and sightseeing will be offered.

Chinese Summer Schools are sponsored by the British government. In the past, the purpose was to raise interest in the Chinese language. This year, however, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (the UK Ministry) wants to focus on tangible improvements in the Chinese level of the students. All students are required

UK teenagers come for summer camp



Students from China and the UK exchanged cards on which they wrote down their wishes to each other.

Photo provided by British Council

to sit the language ladder listening test at the end of the camp.

Since Chinese Summer School is reputable among British schools, and the popularity of learning Chinese in the UK is growing, the number of students coming this year has increased by nearly 50 percent.

The Central University for

Nationalities and the Affiliated High School of Beijing University are this year's two hosts in the capital. Aside from arranging courses, the schools hope this year to foster more interaction between the UK students and local ones.

British students will visit Chinese families this weekend where they will learn how to make both

Chinese and British dishes. The camp is organizing a "Supermarket Star" activity, where students from both countries must complete a shopping task within a time limit. The organizers will also host a contest about Beijing and the Olympic games to enhance students' overall knowledge of the city.

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Expat networks made easy

By Bessie Ng

Susan Grant, President of Beijing expat-community group "International Newcomers Network," finds it much easier to build social networks in Beijing than in English-Speaking countries.

Although Grant has only lived in Beijing for two years, she is an experienced expatriate. Married to a globetrotting businessman, she left her Australian home and began 25 years of expat life, living in Hong Kong, the US, Germany and the UK.

From an expatriate perspective, she explains that foreigners are more open-minded in a new environment and become more receptive to new people. Living away from home, and in a country where English speakers are uncommon, newcomers rely intensively on "newly established connections," and expat community groups, are as a result, closer and tighter.

"I think it is harder to build social networks in English-Speaking countries, because there is less need to create support networks," she said.

She says the key to social networking in a new area is "small talk" – "and especially when Starbucks is made so available here" – with a sip of coffee and a plate of pastry, chit-chatting between strangers can easily take place, often difficult to stop.

Nevertheless, she thinks it is always a better option to begin research early and recommends planning ahead by contacting accessible expatriate community



The international newcomers often get together on the weekend.

Photo provided by INN

groups before arriving in Beijing.

She recalled having contacted the "Australia and New Zealand Association" in Beijing back when she still lived in London, and was fortunate to catch "one of their biggest coffee mornings" when she arrived in August, "There were at least 60 foreign women in the room, which was impressive."

Grant also advises newcomers to visit Embassies and your Chambers of Commerce in

Beijing. These larger institutions are often well-connected and provide useful resources to different expat communities.

Although recent economic boom in Beijing have caused severe traffic problems and air pollution issues, Grant foresees an expanding expatriate scene in Beijing, "It's going to get bigger."

Nonni Langdale, another expatriate from Canada said her was later introduced to various

community groups by expatriate neighbours, and she particularly enjoys visiting the British Club of Beijing "I found it more multi-national and welcoming, whereas I think you need to be invited to be able to join the American Club."

She suggests newcomers to keep an eye on expat publications, a good starting point to hook newcomers with upcoming events in the expat scene.



Soccer Champs

The "Africano" team holds up their championship trophy after winning the ClubFootball's 5-a-side League tournament at Chaoyang Park.

Photo provided by ClubFootball

Freecycle Beijing helps ditch your stuff

By Annie Wei

The Freecycle Network, that started in 2003 to promote waste reduction in Tucson, Arizona, US, now has over 250 people in Beijing.

The idea of the network is to provide individuals and non-profit organizations an electronic forum to "recycle" unwanted stuff, which means people exchange items they no longer want for free on the internet.

Darren Griffith, a 32 year-old Canadian man and a Linux systems administrator for Exoweb, a software company based in Beijing, started the Freecycle group here. Asked about his initial motivation to kick off something like this in town, Griffith said, "When I first

heard about the Freecycle idea, I was drawn to it by its simplicity and ultimate usefulness. I wanted that in my community and found no group like it in Beijing."

Griffith followed the instructions, and set up a Yahoo! email "group" for Beijing in 2005. "People slowly began discovering and joining the group, and within six months, we started having regular postings," he said.

"You see, I'm a foreigner living in Beijing, and I know a lot of foreigners here too. And a universal truth is that foreigners are always coming and going due to the demands of their jobs and impermanence of their stay in Beijing. So friends who leave are always

trying to sell or (mostly) give away their furniture and other stuff as they leave Beijing. And new people arriving are likewise in need of such items. So in a situation like this, Freecycle Beijing is a perfect service to the foreigner community that is always coming and going. And the local Chinese can benefit by participating too," Griffith said.

Joining Freecycle is quite simple. Go to groups.yahoo.com/group/FreecycleBeijing/ and register as a member, then you will receive an email in detail about the online community, including things you should not do, such as "no politics, no spam, no money, no personal attacks/rudeness, no proselytizing/region ... Two strikes

and you are out," to safety issues like having the safety alarm on when a "stranger" comes over to pick up your stuff.

"Yes, when you have a community of mostly anonymous users who must meet in person to exchange goods, then personal safety becomes an issue that we need to make our users aware of. Someone getting hurt or being taken advantage of would be very unfortunate for everyone in the community. That's why the safety advice is there. And there have not been any negative incidents in Beijing during our short history, thankfully. Yes, we continue to urge people to use common sense and be aware," Griffith said.

Events

Transformer Event - Bots and Rides BASH!

It features a house DJ, large-screen Transformers movie trailers and old-school animations, displays of Transformers models and high-performance motorbikes, as well as a robot-style dance off!

Where: Arena, B133, B1/F, The Place, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang

When: 10pm to late, July 21
Tel: 6587-2888

Fee: 30 yuan at the Door (Transformers t-shirt giveaways, movie tickets and a lucky draw for Crocs shoes)

Chasing the Flame: The Lasting Legacy of the Olympic Games

As part of Greg Groggel's fascinating project to investigate the social, economic and political impact of hosting the world's largest event, he's spent two months each in various cities which have played host to the Olympic Games – Mexico City, Munich, Sarajevo, Sidney, Seoul and now, Beijing.

Where: The Bookworm, Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30pm, July 24,
Tel: 6586 9507

Tianjin Historical Architecture Tour

This is a unique cultural tour to Tianjin guided by a curator from the Tianjin Historical Architecture Museum, exploring the old colonial districts and areas where the western and classic Chinese villas are now used by municipal governmental offices and organizations, including some not open to individual visitors. Some sites you will check out include six European countries legation areas and American barracks, last Emperor Puyi's former residence and one prince's garden. Meeting at 8am Beijing Railway Station.

When: 8am-6pm, July 22,
Cost: 380 yuan, includes train, transportation in Tianjin and Lunch

Children's Discounts: Children ages 0-3 free of charge; Children ages 4-7 pay 50 percent; Children ages 8-11 pay 70 percent

Tel: 6432 9341 (Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm), 6432 1041 (weekday mornings and evenings; and weekend, rerouted to mobile phone)

Personal Development Workshop: Using the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator for self-awareness

Take the MBTI "the world's leading personality indicator" to increase your self-awareness, discover your strengths, reduce stress and improve work and personal relationships.

Where: to be determined
When: 6:30pm-9pm, July 25

Cost: 250 yuan, excluding materials

Email: cooper.saraha@gmail.com
(By He Jianwei)

See China's latest in military technology



A Chinese officer introduces foreign students from the National University of Defense Technology to China Military Museum's exhibition.

Photo by Xu Chunliu

By Jackie Zhang

The first day of August is the 80th anniversary of the establishment of People's Liberation Army (PLA). An exhibition showing the development and achievement of the army starts Monday at the China Military Museum.

In three outdoor armament exhibition areas and one logistics equipment exhibition area, 20 domestically-made large scale battle equipments are on display. All the items exhibited are real except the first atomic bomb and

the first h-bomb.

The No 1 exhibition area features: new types of tanks, new medium-haul ground to ground nuclear missiles, new ground to ground conventional missiles and cross-country command cars. All the missiles exhibited are real, but the demolition devices have already been removed.

A well-equipped fighter plane has taken more than half of the space at the No 2 exhibition area. Here you can also see new types of medium-haul land-air missile

launcher vehicles and land-air missile radar guidance trail cars.

In the third exhibition area, the latest type of battle tank, infantry fighting vehicle, large-caliber self-propelled artillery are on display. There is also heavy antitank missile launcher vehicles and satellite communications cars.

The logistic equipment area is clearly the noisiest, but has food and medical care. There is also a simulation training system that the marines used on a vessel that is open to the public.

Where: China Military Museum, No 9, Fuxing Road, Haidian (Subway Line 1 can take you there.)

When: July 16 to August 20

Admission: free

Tel: 6686 6114

Tips: During the exhibition, all the four storeys of the museum are open to the public for free. Every day, around 10,000 tickets are for group visitors. And the rest of the tickets are for individuals. Try to arrive there early and do remember to bring your valid certificates.

ASK Beijing Today

Email your questions to: weiyang@ynet.com

Still looking for smoke free restaurants in Beijing.

Thanks to Liora Pearlman, the founder of Beijing Organic Yahoo! Group, who forward the answer to *Beijing Today* and Evelyn Fang of Beijing United Family Hospital, who maintains a list of local restaurants with clear signs for either completely nonsmoking or a dedicated nonsmoking section. Please email evelyn.fang@ufh.com.cn for the list.

There are some levels of racism here. I think laowai is a terrible word.

For Chinese people, "laowai" is just a name without any prejudice. "Lao" is a polite gesture or remark in traditional Chinese language. "Wai" is a symbol of an expression among Chinese people when talking about a foreign person, or *wai-guoren*, in Chinese.

I don't like it when people cut in line or push me to get into line. We don't do this in America. Sometimes that behavior would get you punched in the face. What should I do?

I am sorry to hear that. A great number of people take the buses or subway especially during rush hour. But, we now have "line-up day" on the 11th of each month. People have been gradually influenced to observe the rules when the 2008 Olympic Games comes around. Try to look on the bright side.

My big problem is that everyone always thinks I am rich just because I am an American, so they tend to try to overcharge me even more than they overcharge Chinese.

The first thing you should do is learn as much Chinese as you can. That way, when you buy things you can bargain with vendors in Chinese. I know it is difficult to learn, but you could find some Chinese partners to practice with. Secondly, when you go shopping, be sure to go with your Chinese friends. Last but not least, ask your friends or surf on the Internet to figure out reasonable prices for the things you want to buy before you go shopping.

Next month, I will be attending my Chinese friend's wedding. What kind of wedding present should I give him?

First, it's best to ask your friend in advance what they really need. What's more, knowledge of the new couple's lifestyles or hobbies, will help you to pick a unique gift, say, a man-made craft, a photo frame, a porcelain flower vase, a bedspread embroidered with the couple's name, or red double happiness sheets. Of course, if all else fails, you can also give him a red envelope.

(By Liu Ao/Li Meng)

Chongwenmen subway station closes for 15 days

By Jackie Zhang

In order to prepare for the construction of the interchange project between Line 5, which will be tested September, and Line 2, the Chongwenmen subway station will be closed tomorrow and last for the next 15 days.

Currently, subway trains do not stop at Chongwenmen station. It will reopen on August 5.

In order to let passengers walk less while changing subways, escalators have been installed at the interchange station between Line 5 and Line 2. The interchange station between Line 5 and Line 1 is at Dongdan station. Since the distance between the two lines is long, walking strips like at the airport will be installed as well.

AirChina now offering online boarding cards



You need a boarding card to get on your plane in Beijing.

CFP Photo

By Huang Daohen

If you hate waiting in a long line to collect your boarding card, AirChina Airlines says it has the answer – check-ins via the Internet.

Every July sees the peak of air passengers heading out of the country. "The launch of online check-in is to relieve the passengers from check-in troubles," said

a working staff member at the AirChina Beijing branch.

The online check-in is not as exciting as it might seem at first, however, as online users must check in (online) no less than 2 hours before the departure, and the deal is available for those with little luggage.

Passengers with electronic tickets can log in at airchina.com.cn,

and complete the check-in procedures for an online boarding pass. Then you can print the boarding card in PDF format (size A4) on your personal computer.

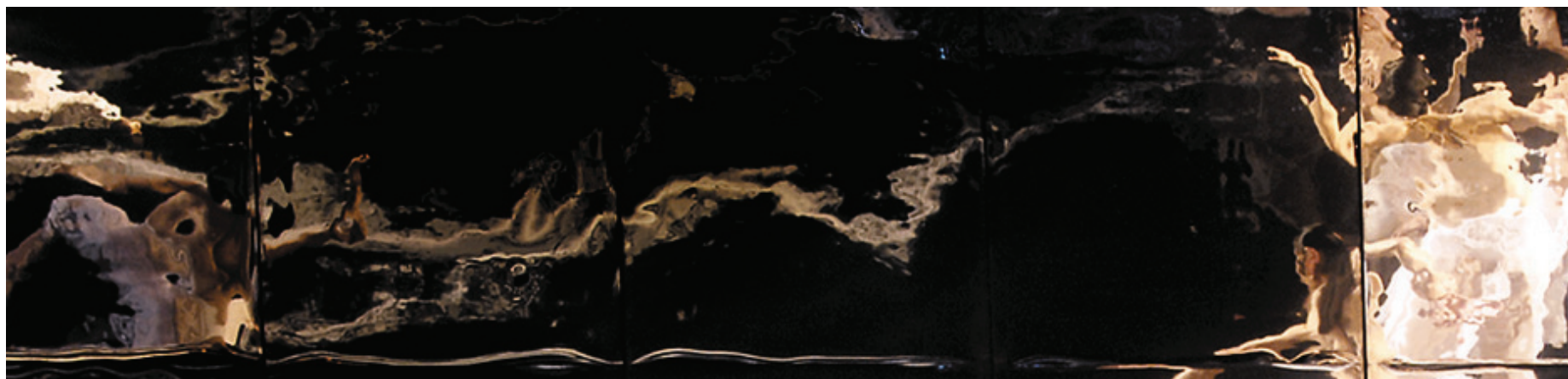
Passengers also have the option of choosing their seats online.

If users are traveling with luggage that needs to be checked, they still will need to check in at the Beijing Capital International Airport.

In case of losing the printed boarding passes, passenger may be able to re-print them with the same seat number or ask for the boarding passes at the check-in counters.

The online check-in service is, however, only available in Chinese, an English edition will soon be launched, according to AirChina.

AirChina is not the first airline to offer online check-in. South Airlines launched the same online service last year, but it was limited to several domestic routes.



More than just dance

The return of Lin Hwai-min and Cloud Gate

By He Jianwei

It has been 14 years since Lin Hwai-min and his Cloud Gate Dance Theater first arrived on the Beijing stage. Thanks to the Forum on China's Contemporary Dance, this reporter has had the opportunity to meet with Lin on several occasions since May.

With the opening of Johann Sebastian Bach's *Six Suites for Solo Cello*, a dancer slowly began moving under a beam of light.

"I'm sorry. We had to stop our performance, because some people were taking pictures," Lin said, explaining why they closed the curtain only a minute after beginning *Moon Water*.

It was not the first time they had to interrupt one of their performances. At the debut of Cloud Gate's performance in 1973, he did the same thing on a Taipei stage. "At that time I was 26, and now I'm 60. I had to think long and hard about why I was so angry, but I finally came to grips with my anger after reading Long Yingtai's (a Taiwan

social-political

Aren't You A
Lin and his
nights at the
White Serpe
Cloud Gate
the last two.





nice

s critic) essay *Chinese Person, Why*
ngry?," Lin said.
his dance theater performed four
Poly Theater with *Tale of the*
nt and *Unforgettable Moments of*
the first two days, and *Moon Water*



Moon Water

Tapping into history

Lin Hwai-min always reiterates his appreciation of the name "Cloud Gate" when meeting with reporters.

According to legend, Yun Men (Cloud Gate) is the earliest name of 'dance' in China, which is said to have originated some 5,000 years ago. In 1973, Lin adopted this name for the first Chinese contemporary dance company: Cloud Gate Dance Theater of Taiwan.

Cloud Gate's rich history has its roots in Asian myths, folklore and aesthetics, but Lin brings to these age-old beliefs and stories a contemporary and universal perspective. The company is made up of 24 dancers whose training includes *Tai Chi Tao Yin*, an ancient form of *Qi Gong*, meditation, martial arts, Chinese Opera movement, modern dance, ballet and calligraphy.

The adoption of the Chinese legend is a kind of retrospection and resolution towards the culture in Taiwan. "The western culture influenced Taiwan a lot in the 1960s. For example, most of the songs we sang were in foreign languages," Lin said, "We were eager to make our own dance."

A folding fan, an oiled paper umbrella, several canes and a bamboo curtain were all props used to tell the ancient Chinese tale in Cloud Gate's first performance in 1975, *Tale of the White Serpent*.

"Lin Hwai-min has succeeded brilliantly in fusing dance techniques with theatrical concepts from the East and the West," *The New York Times* once wrote about Lin's *White Serpent*.

He utilized the theatrical concepts from Peking Opera and with the music being played on Chinese instruments.

From its first show, Cloud Gate has enjoyed high acclaim and popularity both at home and abroad. Cloud Gate has been on extensive overseas tours throughout Europe, Asia, Australia, and North and South America.

At home, it performs throughout Taiwan, in venues ranging from the lavish theatre in Taipei to mid-sized cultural centers in various cities to high-school auditoriums in remote villages. The company also gives free outdoor performances several times a year, which draws upwards of 60,000 people per show.

State of life

"Dance is a very personal thing and I regarded it as a state of life," Lin said.

He fell in love with dance after watching the film *The Red Shoes* at age five. At 14, he received payment for a novel that was published by the *United Daily News*. "After that, I bought some books and took ballet courses."

He later studied in the US and continued to write novels. After training with the Martha Graham and Merce Cunningham studios in New York in the late 1960s and early 70s, Lin returned to Taiwan.

Fortunately for him, Lin believes that he was not majoring in dance, which had more restrictions on the concept of what dance is. So it's easy to understand why an unusual combination of say *Tai Chi Tao Yin* and Bach's music is so prevalent in his work.

"Bach's music is so perfect that could easily make your work imperfect," Lin said. The debut of *Moon Water* in Berlin was unforgettable for him, "I felt like I was taking an exam. I was petrified backstage."

He received high praise for his performances in Berlin. German newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* once wrote, "Their performance will serve as a benchmark to be artistically matched in Berlin. To keep up with a standard thus set will not be easy. To exceed it is almost impossible."

Addition by subtraction

When looking back on his life, Lin concluded that he often added pieces to his shows, but is now mainly taking things out. It certainly hold true in his choreography: there were more details in the narration and the costumes in Cloud Gate's earlier works, but, simple costumes and no narration in their later work.

"I'm getting older and I can't jump higher," he explained when asked about the transition of his shows.

Since the 1990s, all the dancers in Cloud Gate have been asked to practice meditation, martial arts, *Tai Chi Tao Yin*, modern dance and ballet eight hours a day, as well as having a class on Chinese calligraphy once a week.

"We started to pay more attention to dance techniques. Our bodies should achieve the techniques instinctively. When we close our eyes and take a deep breath, we realize what our body is," he said, "When the dancers begin meditating and taking *Tai Chi Tao Yin*, they realize that their body is a universe."

In *Moon Water*, the dancers didn't follow the beat of the music, but followed the beat of the breath.

"I want to seduce a physical reaction from the audience," he said, "If the audience doesn't have a physiological reaction, I don't think it is a good performance."



Spring, The Dream of Red Chamber

Comment

At the China Contemporary Dance Forum, audience members revealed what they thought about Lin Hwai-min and Cloud Gate after the show last Sunday afternoon.

After I watched the *Tale of the White Serpent* and *Unforgettable Moments of Cloud Gate*, I felt Cloud Gate's performances had a lot to do with being aesthetically pleasing. I prefer *Homage to the God of the Clouds*, in which the dancer danced on the shoulders of the other two dancers. It was really exciting and also mysterious.

— **Yue Minjun, artist**

I really appreciate the openness in Lin Hwai-min's performances, which makes a significant contribution to the communication among different cultures.

— **Zha Jianying, writer**

I watched *Moon Water* from the second level. When the dancers took the curtain call at the end, they all stood in the shape of ship. I regarded it as an admiral of oriental culture.

— **Ou Jianping, contemporary dance critic**



Moon Water

Photos by Ye Jin

Renaissance from the darkness



By He Jianwei

French writer Hugues de Montalembert released his autobiography in Chinese earlier this month. The book, titled *La Lumière Assassinée* (*Cansha Guangming* in Chinese), is published by Life, Reading and Knowledge Sanlian Bookstore.

On the launch ceremony, de Montalembert said he believes the most horrible fate for a man is the inability to light up his own heart. In the book, he finds himself between death and birth. "I am dead to my past life and not yet reborn to this new one," he said.

The author was born into an old aristocratic family in Normandy, France, in 1943. He was an international painter until May 1978, when two drugged thieves attacked him and threw acid in his face, permanently destroying his vision. His confrontation with evil takes him into a labyrinth of despair, anger and unending physical and emotional pain.

He describes the evening he was attacked and how it changed the course of his life. The book has remained a best seller in France since its first publication 20 years ago.

After his injury, de Montalembert was forced to rebuild his life and re-evaluate his existence through riding, rock climbing, traveling, sailing and writing. "Before I was injured, I painted all day long and ignored everything else; after my injury, I began to ponder the meaning of life," he said.

He traveled Lou Guan Tai, a Taoist temple in Shaanxi Province, during his travels all over the world. When he visited the temple, he picked



up a piece of bamboo for a walking stick. "I admire Taoism, and I found it holds the key to life. It taught me to stay dedicated and to persevere," he said.

"I don't have any desire for revenge. It has been almost 30 years since I was attacked. The men may have already passed away," he said. He returned to the room where the disaster

happened 10 months after he was injured. "Before I entered the room, I thought I would be unstable and uneasy. Actually, I had no feeling at all when I entered that room," he said.

His autobiography has been translated into several other languages besides Chinese. It was adapted to film as *Black Sun* and was directed by Gary Tarn in 2006.

Retelling childhood

to another, but Sang writes them and gives each a number. No 258 is about a desk she sat in at school, No 259 concerns Cambodia, while No 260 is about how her grandfather was pampered on a trip when he was mistaken as a high-ranking officer.

Many readers have recommended the book because of its humorous nature and similarities to their own childhood.

In one story, Sang writes, "I am playing with a new doll I just got outside. Deng Xiaojia sees it and asks whether I can give my doll to her. I start thinking carefully as the sun beats down: what if I didn't have the doll? I would not die; I would not lose a bit of myself. The sun is still shining on me. I can still have a cake when I

get home later and watch Mickey House on TV. My sanjie, a relative, will still come to visit me in two days and take me to eat street food. So I decide to give my doll to Deng Xiaojia. 'Alright, you can have it.'"

The book is written in a way which reflects how a child thinks and experiences the world. Each paragraph is a story, while each story is less than 300 Chinese characters. Some paragraphs have only one sentence. In fact, the entire book is composed of two parts: when the writer was young, and her stories from Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai. Sang has lived in all three cities, and tries to record her life and feeling of each through her native Sichuan dialect.

Sang started writing the book more than two years ago. It began with a few paragraphs on a friend's blog. Because many people liked it and said that she should turn it into a book, Sang hammered out a draft over the next ten days. Her childhood memories inspired many people, and quite a few publishing houses. However, Sang wanted to use her own artwork for the book, while many publishing houses opposed. The conflict delayed the book's release till now.

Sang was born in Chengdu, Sichuan, in 1979. She has worked as an actress, a print media model, a waitress and as a journalist. Today, she is the deputy editor for the magazine *Zhongguo Chengshi* (*China's Cities*).



By Annie Wei

Sang Gege's newly released *Xiao Shihou* (*When I Was Young*, Xinxing Publishing House, 28 yuan) is a fun read that is guaranteed to rekindle memories of lost childhood years.

The book was first recommended by Wang Xiaofeng, China's most famous blogger, who introduced, Sang, 27, a Chinese woman and a drop-out with an interesting personality.

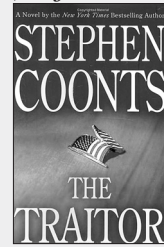
The book is full of childhood stories from an adult woman. The stories do not necessarily link one

CNPIEC Bookstore's Recommendations

CNPIEC (China National Publication Import and Export Corporation) Bookstore recommends the latest US best sellers.

The Traitor: A Tommy Carmellini Novel

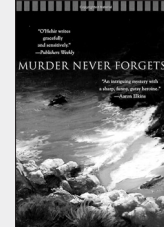
By Stephen Coonts
368pp, St. Martin's Paperbacks, 80 yuan



In Coonts's assured new international thriller, Tommy Carmellini, the sardonic, laid-back CIA agent who became a star in 2004's *Liars & Thieves*, gets a shot at the big time in his second featured outing when he's asked to drop his routine work and help find out why the director of French intelligence is making large, secret investments in the Bank of Palestine.

Murder Never Forgets

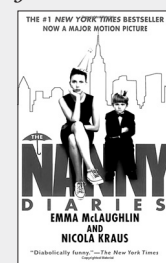
By Diana O'Hehir
304pp, Berkley, 70 yuan



Novelist-poet O'Hehir turns her talents to a gracefully executed thriller that explores how memories can both protect and endanger us. Carla Day, the 25-year-old daughter of world-renowned Egyptologist Edward Day, is worried about her aging father, whose behavior has become dangerously erratic as suffers the early stages of Alzheimer's.

The Nanny Diaries

By Emma McLaughlin & Nicola Kraus
320pp, St. Martin's Griffin, 80 yuan



The Nanny Diaries is an absolutely addictive peek into the utterly weird world of child rearing in the upper reaches of Manhattan's social strata. The novel follows the adventures of the aptly named Nan as she negotiates the Byzantine byways of working for Mrs X, a Park Avenue mommy.

CNPIEC Bookstore

Where: the second floor of CNPIEC, No 16 Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang
Open: 8:30am-6:30pm
Tel: 6506 6688 ext 8219
(By He Jianwei)

Round and round we go

By Gan Tian

Everyone has a special feeling when the Ferris wheel slowly takes him or her up to overlook the city. Some feel depressed, some feel happy and some are pensive about the meaning of life. The feeling can be somewhat addictive, and every Ferris wheel offers a new experience. The wheel represents one's city, life and love.

Xiamen – Youth

Xue Shaoyue runs a blog called "Happy Ferris Wheel" where he talks about his campus life. This summer, he left the world of college to enter the job market. He abandoned his blog and renamed it "The Sunflower Has Vanished."

The Ferris wheel in Xiamen represented Xue's youth. He recalled his first time riding it. "It was two years ago when I was still a sophomore. I went there with a girl who was really special to me at that time. As others before us had done so many times before, when the Ferris wheel took us up, I took her hand, and at the peak, I kissed her," Xue wrote. "You could see half the city at the highest point. I felt that life is so beautiful, and there are so many things we have to pursue while we are young."

Xue wrote that the Ferris wheel suits his city's characteristic. "Xiamen is a nice city. On summer nights, many people go out to sit at the beach and watch the tides. I love the city. It is young and promising."

Something about Ferris wheels

1. The Ferris wheel is named after George Washington Gale Ferris Jr, who designed a 264-foot (80-meter) wheel for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, Illinois, 1893.
2. The Ferris wheel was designed as a rival to the Eiffel Tower, the centerpiece of the 1889 Paris exhibition.
3. It plays an important part in contemporary literature. The wheel's most notable appearance came when Murakami Haruki used it to describe a relationship.

London – Loneliness

Ed Maiden lives in London. Every time he looks up, he can see the London Eye standing high at the western edge of Jubilee Gardens.

Maiden, now 24, works as an IT programmer for a big company in central London. In spite of making a decent salary, he still feels very lonely. "I'm not a local. I have a lot of friends, but I still feel lonely," Maiden wrote. "Every day, I drive back from work at night past the London Eye. It feels lonely too, I guess."

Nearly four million people visit the London Eye every year. "It welcomes many people from all over the world, but for those of us who live here, it is a friend. We are all people living lonely in this cold, giant city. We go to work alone, come back alone and do everything alone."

"If you are a visitor to London, at around 9pm you will be astonished to see the traffic at the South Bank of the Thames River is busy even on weekdays. That's because of all the lonely people driving closer to the London Eye. For lonely people, everything is a friend."

Tokyo – Uncertainty

Odaiba is a large, artificial island in Tokyo. Josh Savior went to Japan on a business trip in December 2004 and September 2006. He saw Daikan Ransha (Rinkai Teleport Town) there twice. Despite being the second largest Ferris wheel next to the London Eye, it didn't really stand out to him.

"I just walked by and heard laughter coming from beside me. I didn't know what was happening," Savior said.

According to Wikitravel, Odaiba Island features many hyper-modern and just plain strange buildings memorably described as the result of an "acid-soaked pre-schooler's architecture class." The area is a popular shopping and entertainment destination, so the Ferris wheel offers an entertainment venue.

Beijing – Homeless

"Beijing's Ferris wheel is a giant heap of iron garbage," Soso, a Beijing local and painter, said. "I went up there once. Amidst buildings and the constant construction, it seemed lost. It was hard to tell if the wheel was part of the past or the future."

"It was like it couldn't figure out whether to stay or go. It was like it was lost in the forests at Yuyuantan, but then it vanished like a homeless child."

Food up there



By Gan Tian

What's the feeling up there? I mean, flying high in an airplane? You must encounter beautiful airline ladies, good service, and of course, great food! No matter whether you are traveling first class or economy, if you are on a business trip or just traveling, the most important thing up there is to eat – you don't want to sleep all the time.

Beijing Today has found some "restaurants" that you can't find anywhere in Beijing. However, you still have a chance to taste them if you like the air up there. We have found delicious cuisine from five airline companies. You would be astonished to see the seafood on a United Arab Emirates flight, or see the vast array of different fruits on Air France.

You can even enjoy typical French romance in the food on French Airlines, and experience "starchef" on Lufthansa, and please don't worry about getting upset on the plane, as United Airlines provides typical American comfort foods.

Is your mouth watering yet? We are about to take off.



Photo provided by United Arab Emirates

Emirates: taking pride in hospitality and food

"In the same way that people of the United Arab Emirates pride themselves on hospitality and service, so does its international airline. Food and drink form an integral part of any flight, but with Emirates, passengers know they can look forward to some of the finest wines available served with menus created by leading chefs to reflect the culture and preferences of Emirates' international customers," the company says in the first paragraph of its pamphlet.

The menu consists of: Asian vegetarian meal, fruit platter, high fiber meal, low-calorie meal. It even has a special children's menu. Purple, green, yellow and many other bright colors are applied to the cutlery,

tray mats, snack boxes, headset bags, as well as the toy bags for screaming kids.

Breakfast served on long flights contains a bottle of freshly squeezed fruit juice, yogurts, cereal, your choice of three hot breakfasts, pastries, bread and preserves, a selection of teas and freshly made coffee. Let's see, as starters, young travelers can enjoy a variety of delectable delights such as tuna and pasta, salami and cheese sandwiches and salads. Main courses kick it up a notch with global favorites such as macaroni and cheese, bangers and mash, chicken nuggets, pasta and tomato sauce and veggie burgers. To top it off, even the fussiest of eaters will be delighted

with their wonderful dessert items like rice pudding and chocolate mousse.

What's special here is the ethnic cuisine. Great care is taken in catering to passengers' own personal preferences. The airline promises there is always an option suitable for everyone on board. Take your Arabian friends with you. Take your Tibetan friends with you. Take your Irish friends with you. But don't worry about their food.

Emirates is a regular winner of the award for "Best Airline Food" by the Executive Travel (now OAG) at the Airline of the Year awards in London. Believe them, if you do not believe me.



Photo provided by United Airlines

Wine on the Wing

You know, if you flew somewhere in United Business Class on its transcontinental and international flights, you would have probably seen the Master of Wine dozing off, as it is the best "wine on the wing" according to a Global Traveler's annual in-flight wine survey.

"As our customers come from around the world, it is our priority to offer them a great selection of wines as part of their premier travel experience," Jane Allen, senior vice president of Onboard Service for United, said. "Our wine consultant, Master Sommelier and Master of

Wine, Doug Frost, helps us search for wines that are well-balanced, clean and rich and appeal to our customers' discerning palettes."

United's wine consultant, Doug Frost, is a Master Sommelier and Master of Wine – one of the only three people in the world to have achieved both distinctions. To help United find the best wine for its customers, Frost tastes 35 wines for every one that is chosen for wine selection on board. United will serve about 50,000 cases of still wine for international business class and 7,000 cases of international

business class champagne.

It doesn't matter if it is Laboure Roi Pouilly Fuisse Maconnais United submitted for the white wine category in 2002, or Staton Hills Central Coast Syrah for red wine that year, or even Piper-Heidsieck Brut NV for the champagne or sparkling wine, they all show that United is determined to make every passenger a little tipsy and impress them with its hospitality.

But remember not to get too drunk, gentleman, you are still on a business trip.

Continued on Page 17 ...

... continued from Page 16



First class on British Airways

On British Airways, you can choose to dine from the a la carte menu at any time that suits you. They also employ a "culinary council" made up of some of the world's most renowned chefs who work in close collaboration with British Airways' catering team to create exclusive dishes.

When you know that the finest wines and champagnes have been carefully selected from around the world, will you be able to forget that the ticket price was so much?

Let's see what they have up there. A 'Catch of the Day' meal option in association with Loch Fyne restaurants is now available from London Heathrow and London Gatwick, giving customers the choice of fresh fish.

'Lighter Options' have also been added to the menu specifically for late night departures. These have been designed to be a tempting alternative to the full meal. Examples include lobster, pan seared wild Scottish salmon, roasted Cornish game hen, lobster fish cakes, marinated pan seared cod or Thai style fillet of beef.

An "English Afternoon Tea" service has also been introduced for customers looking for a truly British experience. This new option will feature Twinings teas, assorted sandwiches, scones served with clotted cream and strawberry jam and a selection of fine pastries.

Photo provided by British Airways



Food diaries on Air France

Steven Shaw

Route: Johannesburg – Charles De Gaulle, 1 Apr 2006

Class: one class only

Aircraft: Boeing 747-400

Meal: Breakfast – fruit salad, a selection of ham & cheese, croissant with butter and jam, bread roll, plain yogurt

Drink: Orange and apple juice, plus water

Comments: The Fruit salad was very tasty, and it was good that it didn't lose its color since it probably sat for a long time. The ham was very good quality also, as was the cheese. The croissant was top notch. The bread roll wasn't that brilliant unfortunately. The juice was a bit sour, but OK. The plain yogurt tasted fine even though it was low fat. It was a very enjoyable breakfast, even though it was 4am.

Monica Pileggi

Route: Paris – Washington Dulles, 25 May 2006

Class: economy

Aircraft: Air Bus 318

Meal: Lunch – Baked Hake in a green sauce with rice; salad with a goat cheese round; bread and brie. White wine. Chocolate cake for dessert with vanilla yogurt.

Drink: White wine

Comments: Air France usually has pretty good food. The fish was cooked properly – not overly dry. The chocolate cake was actually a little too rich for my taste but it was yummy. The goat cheese was wonderful, which I spread on my bread or ate as is.



Photo provided by Air France



Meet a star chef

You might be excited to meet a basketball star from the NBA, a soccer star from the English Premier League, or a movie star from Hollywood, but a star chef?

In April this year, Germany's Lufthansa Airlines began its cooperation with Green T House to introduce Zhang Jinjie, owner and artisan of the innovative Green T House in Beijing, as its latest Star Chef. Zhang Jinjie, or JinR as she is known, has created outstanding menus for Lufthansa's worldwide flights, enabling the airline's premium passengers to savor her extravagant creations.

JinR combines classic Chinese cuisine with Western influences, but her unusual dishes are created very spontaneously. Green tea plays an important role because she believes it is the best accompaniment to her dishes. Creating delight, even before guests visualize the stunning food presentation, and savor the exotic flavors, are the imaginative names of her dishes.

A great starter is "Green tea Wasabi prawns dancing with mango salsa." It is a dish of pan-fried prawns adorned with shredded nori seafood, or eggplant filled with jasmine rice served with broccoli, ginkgo nuts and lotus root.

Next, try "Floating on the sea" – marinated tuna, wasabi mouselline and a glass noodle salad with shrimp, or strips of beef simmered in soy sauce with ginger, egg noodles and China beans.

Photo provided by Lufthansa Airlines





CHINA
OPEN



Tommy Robredo

Nikolay Davydenko

Li Na

Marcos Baghdatis

Martina Hingis

Amelie Mauresmo

Ivan Ljubicic



Booking Hotline
400-810-3721
www.piao.com.cn

Venues: Beijing Tennis Center
Time: 2007.9.8-9.23
Official Inquiries: 8610-58206667
www.chinaopen.com.cn

**2007.9.8-9.23 Decisive Battle
Beyond The Forbidden City**



When you catch a cold in summer

By Zhang Nan

It's easy to catch a cold in the spring and winter due to the cold and dry weather. It's also easy to forget that it is also possible to get a cold in the summer.

When the temperature rises, your thermoregulation system can lose its balance. If you enter a cold room or somewhere where the temperature is extremely low, your capillary vessels suddenly shrink, which disturbs your body's balance – the function of emitting heat as your body's temperature rises.

If and when you get a cold in the summer, you'll feel your head get heavy. You may vomit; you'll probably cough; your throat will ache and you'll have a stuffy nose.

If you get these symptoms, follow your doctor's orders to escape from this terrible downer.

1. Do not eat spicy food

When your body temperature is high, your stomach squirms slowly. Food with high protein or fat is difficult to digest.

2. Sweating is often good for getting over a cold

Remember not to bathe immediately after getting home on a hot day as it may worsen your condition.

3. Don't exercise too vigorously

It will exhaust your energy supply needed to fight off the bug.

4. Avoid smoking and drinking

Cigarettes and wine will affect your breathing and make you feel worse.

Diet tips for treatment:

1. Mix lemon juice, grape juice and orange juice equally with clean water at about 37 to 38 degree centigrade.

2. Take 20 grams of fresh haricot bean flower, lotus leaf and roses. Chop the lotus leaf into slices and mix it together with the haricot bean flower and the roses. Boil together in 500ml water and add sugar.

3. Extract watermelon juice directly from the watermelon. Drink it frequently like you would drink water. It can help reduce your body heat.

Cool shades often put eye health in the shade

By Han Manman

Fashionable young women often think of sunglasses as a necessary accessory. However, few seem to be aware that their designer sunglasses could lead to potential health risks.

According to a survey by the College of Optometrists, a leading body in the UK, almost 80 percent of women 25 and under focus on fashion and price over safety standards when it comes to purchasing sunglasses, despite the potential damage from the sun's UV rays.

The College of Optometrists provides advice on what to look for when making a purchase and how to protect your eyes this summer:

Buy good quality, dark sunglasses

– Sunlight can damage the retina and the lens of the eye. We risk causing long term damage to our eyesight, and developing conditions such as cataracts and possibly AMD (Age-related Macular Degeneration), by remaining unprotected.

Check that they are up to code – Good sunglasses don't need to be expensive: you can purchase perfectly adequate protective sunglasses from high street stores.

Don't forget your kids – The World Health Organization estimates that 80 percent of a person's lifetime exposure to UV is received before 18. What's good for you is good for them.

They're not just for summer

– The sun's UV rays can be present in high enough levels to warrant protection throughout the year.

So while some celebrities may be ridiculed for wearing sunglasses in the winter, it is actually good for their eyes. In fact, some people find the glare of the sun more noticeable in the winter, as the sun is lower in the sky.

Light colored eyes are especially vulnerable – People with light colored eyes are the most at risk from sun damage. If you have blue or green eyes, you should take even more precautions to wear sunglasses when your out in the sun.

Tips for using a parasol

By Gan Tian

If you think it is simple to pick a parasol, then you are totally wrong.

1. Buy a parasol with dark colors.

A transparent one is perfect for a rainy day but should never be used when it is sunny. Orange and yellow will make you feel even hotter, so, blue and black are strongly recommended. Don't forget: deep colored parasols are always ugly.

2. Men are never allowed to use parasols. Ever. Just picture a young gentleman holding a parasol at the bus stop while waiting for his girl to show up. That has disaster written all over it.

3. Always hold the parasol up straight. Don't lay it on your shoulders for a long amount time as this can easily lead to shoulder pain.

4. Never hold the parasol too low. It will block your eyesight and can cause an accident.

5. Make a 90-degree angle between the sunshine and the top of your parasol.

6. Don't fold your parasol immediately after you enter the house. Let it cool down for at least five minutes.



CFP Photo

Scent of Grasse

How many times has a familiar scent whisked you down memory lane? Do you have any special memories linked to a certain fragrance? Head for the world capital of perfume, Grasse, a town enveloped in mysterious scents.

Dip into the French Riviera at Cannes or Nice, then climb back onto the hills 50 kilometers from the coast and you'll reach a medieval hamlet that survives by one sense alone: smell.

Scent of a town

Grasse has remained a top tourist town for several centuries with its natural perfume of flowers and clear air. The altitude – from 300-400 meters – and rear hills lend a more refreshing climate than the beach during summer's hottest days. The town's flower fields provide the jasmines, roses and orange perfume brewers use.

Calling anything the "world capital" may strike a suspicious chord with travelers, but in the case of Grasse, it's anything but an overstatement. Here, two dozen fragrance companies manufacture their world-class soaps, after shaves, colognes and perfumes that are sold world wide.

Channel, Obsession and Giorgio are made here. It is very likely that the label you are wearing now began as a spice, herb or Mediterranean flower distilled and blended in this obscure, French city.

Grasse is located 30 minutes west of Nice, a major city in south-

ern France. After arriving at Nice's international airport, you can take a bus to Grasse. The Nice-Grasse bus line has ten buses per day in each direction, seven days a week.

Fragrant history

Products to enhance or mask body odors have been used since ancient times. Ancient Egyptians used scented creams and emollients during their ritual baths. Aromatic gums from China were in high demand in Europe. Herbal and floral scents were also an integral part of Persian, Indian and Arabian cultures. Perfumed oils served as cosmetics and medicine, and sparked the development of the perfumery industry.

The industry in Grasse dates back to the early Renaissance. Already an important trading center, it was known for its production of fine leather goods. During the 16th century, Catherine of Medici was fond of perfumed gloves, and Grasse merchants cultivated aromatic plants tanners to supply the aristocracy with its coveted scented leather. By the 1700s, the perfume industry grew split off, and by the end of the last century, it supplied all of Europe with its fragrances.

Local attractions

Perfumeries

Perfume creators are artists of aroma. Nicknamed "the nose" in industry lingo, the creator sits at an "organ" of hundreds of bottles – testing and sniffing for just the right combination that is guaranteed to sell. At least 20 scents are mixed for a simple perfume – up to hundreds for more complex ones. "Noses" are expected to recognize between 2,000 and 3,000 scents from memory.

There are numerous perfumeries and shops in Grasse where you can see how "the soul of the flower" is extracted to become magic liquid. However, Parfumerie Molinard, Parfumerie Fragonard and Villa Musée Fragonard are the best-known.

Parfumerie Fragonard, one of the best-known perfume factories, is named after an 18th-century French painter. This factory has the best villa, the best museum and the best tour. It will show you the detailed processes for making perfume, and gives you time to explore its museum of bottles and vases that trace the industry to ancient times.

Where: 20 bd. Fragonard, Grasse

When: February to October 9am-6:30pm; November to January daily 9am-12:30pm and 2-6:30pm

Admission: Free admission

The perfume museum

Along with tours of the factories, fragrance fanatics can trace the world history of perfume in the three-story International Museum of Perfume.

This museum teaches more than you ever wanted to know about perfume and the perfume industry. One of the more interesting items is the perfumed hand and foot of a 3,000-year-old mummy on the second floor. The flesh stayed preserved over the centuries because of the perfuming process.

There is a rooftop greenhouse displaying dozens of plants used in perfume, including unlikely herbs such as basil, thyme, juniper berry and black pepper. Essences of these plants accompany the original – and you'll be surprised to find that essences of a plant that we associate with food smell different when extracted from seed or leaf. Black paper, for instance, is surprisingly mild in essence form.

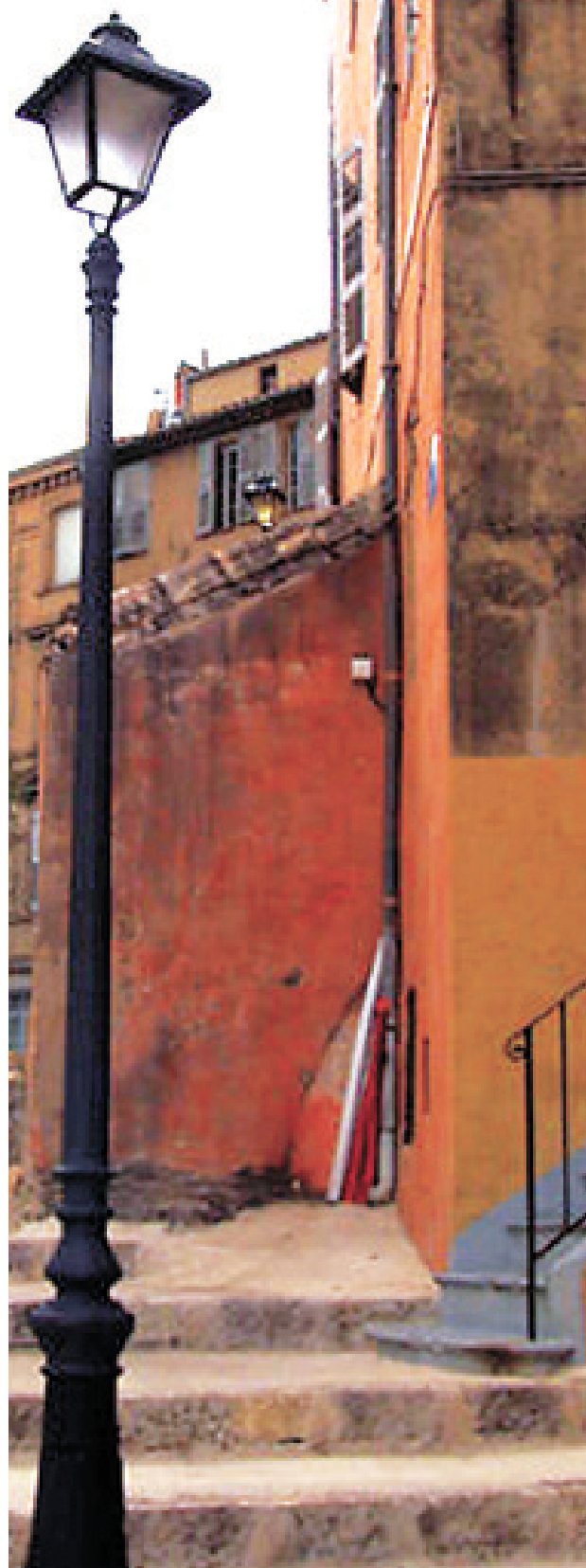
Visitors can test their own nose by guessing scented papers. Don't get frustrated when you discover how difficult it is to identify accurately even a dozen common scents, let alone hundreds.

Where: 8 place du Cours 06130 Grasse France

When: October to May, Wednesday to Monday, 10am-12:30pm and 2-5:30pm; June to September, daily, 10am-7pm

Admission: €4 (US\$5.20) for adults, €2 (US\$2.60) for children

(By Jiang Xubo)



South of the equator

Down refugee way

Instead of cranking up the air conditioning to beat the heat, why not head south for landscapes blanketed by snow? Make a sweet escape from the sweltering summer heat with a trip to one of these exotic destinations.



Photo by nzski.com

Queenstown, New Zealand

Built on an inlet of Wakatipu – a lake shaped like a staggered lightning bolt on New Zealand's South Island – Queenstown has of late become a hip destination for international tourists. Once they arrive, visitors can take the Skyline gondola ride up for a spectacular panorama of Coronet Peak and The Remarkables mountain range which impressively frames the Wakatipu waters.

Young snowboarders, freeskiers, and daredevils come to test their skills on the four major nearby terrains, each only a shuttle ride away from the town. Self-proclaimed the "Adventure Capital of the World," Queenstown offers thrill seekers

bungee jumping, ski diving, helicopter rides and kayaking among a host of daredevil activities. At night, downtown bars, cafes, and restaurants come alive with bottles of Pinot Noir – the regional specialty. The area is home to 75 wineries serving 177 vineyards. Fans of J.R.R. Tolkien may also be interested in the fact that picturesque Queenstown was the filming location for a number of scenes in the "Lord of the Rings."

Rumor has it, the magnificent "Remarkables," as it is called by New Zealanders, got its name from early Queenstown settlers who used the word

to describe the mountain range during sunset. The Remarkables' rugged ski terrain is operated by NZSki, which also runs the slopes for nearby Coronet Peak and Mt Hutt. The Homeward Bound run at the Remarkables is widely regarded as New Zealand's best back-country trail, while tubing hills provide more frivolous fun for families. Teenagers hang out in the terrain parks dancing to live hip-hop bands while DJs spin on the sun deck, which overlooks the beginner's slope. Daytime crowds can birdwatch: the mountain is populated by the mischievous Kea, New Zealand's native parrot.

Special Events: The Remarkables

"Spring Fling" event each September features wacky competitions such as the "Whitewater Raft Race" on snow and the "Splash for Cash" water jump, as well as live bands on the weekend.

Getting there: AIR New Zealand and QANTAS offer flights from Sydney year round, and extends their service to include Brisbane and Melbourne in the winter. Once in New Zealand, driving is a wonderful scenic option – rent a car one your own or take a scenic bus.

Cost: A NZSki list pass costs NZ\$84 per person, per day. Children ten years and under get free admission. The Skyline Gondola ride costs NZ\$20.

Photo provided by Ski Portillo Chile



Portillo, Chile

Ten thousand feet up in the magnificent Andean peaks, South America's oldest and best-known ski resort lies nestled at the ancient Lake of the Incas. Visitors sick of summer sun can head to Portillo, Chile, in August to enjoy not only a breathtaking view of the snow-covered Andes, but also refreshing Latin American hospitality sorely missed in the Northern Hemisphere.

Portillo's first skiers were engineers who built the Transandean Railway over a century ago. Today, it is home to 320 hectares of ski terrain for beginners and experts alike. Families come to enjoy the 25 kilometers of

runs and so do world-class ski teams. With only about 450 guests at any time and no long lines, visitors are free to sleep in and hit the powdery slopes after a late brunch at Tio Bob's, the local restaurant.

The Grand Hotel Portillo offers local Chilean flavor: four squares a day, including high tea, as well as a cozy, unpretentious atmosphere. Its walls are adorned with vintage photographs from the days when Portillo was little more than a sleepy railway stop. As per South American custom, dinner is served late to the tune of a piano serenade. Later in the evening, the bar comes

alive with live entertainment and a disco. Portillo boasts labels itself a place where "families become closer, romances bloom and lifelong friends are made." With Portillo's one-to-one employee-guest ratio, they are never lacking for a glass of wine, a warm meal or a soothing massage. Laughter and conversations in several languages light up the dining rooms as Portillo's cherished guests – many of whom return yearly – relish the "Portillo way of life."

Special events: Portillo will host its 6th Annual Chilean Wine Week August 4-11th. The event features wines from Errázuriz,

Lapostolle, DeMartino, Montes, Viu Manet and Anakena. Don't miss out on Friends and Singles Week on August 20-27.

Getting there: There are daily flights to Santiago International Airport. Once in Santiago, Portillo is a scenic 160-kilometer drive away.

Cost: US\$600 per person at the Inca Lodge; the Octagon Lodge is slightly more expensive at US\$1,150. Family apartments start at US\$1,550, while rooms at the Grand Hotel Portillo range from US\$2,000-\$4,300.

(By Dianna Bai)

Saving Private Ryan

Starring: Tom Hanks, Tom Sizemore, Edward Burns, Barry Pepper, Adam Goldberg

Synopsis: James Ryan, who parachuted into France during the Allied invasion of Europe, has lost three brothers in combat. Government policy dictates that he should return home lest his family be deprived of all its male offspring. A team of soldiers, led by Capt John Miller and fresh from the beaches of Normandy, is assembled to find and save Pvt Ryan.



Scene 2: Headquarters sand-bagged bunker

(Sand and dirt falls with the closest of the explosions which continue through the scene. Miller salutes a Major.)

Col Anderson: I'm sending Simpson to take over for⁽²⁾ you, you're not coming with us, I have something else for you.

Miller: Sir?

Anderson: There's a Pvt James Ryan who parachuted⁽³⁾ in with the Hundred-and-First near Ramelle. I want you to take a squad up there. If he's alive, bring him back to the beach for debarkation. Take whoever you need, you've got your pick of the company.

Miller: A Private, Sir?

Anderson: He's the last of four brothers; the other three were killed in action. This is straight from the Chief of Staff.

Miller: But, Sir ... I ... I ...

Anderson: Spit it out⁽⁴⁾, Captain.

(Miller hesitates, then ...)

Anderson: Respectfully, Sir, sending men all the way up to Ramelle to save one private doesn't make a f—king, god damned bit of sense. Sir.

(The other officers freeze, listening without turning.)

Anderson: You think just because you hold the Congressional Medal of Honor, you can say any damn thing you please to your superior officers?

(Miller considers the question, and then smiles.)

Miller: Yes, Sir, more or less.

Anderson: Alright, I'll give you that.

Miller: The numbers don't make sense, Sir. His brothers are dead, that's too bad, but they're out of the equation. Sending men up there is bleeding heart crapola⁽⁶⁾ from three thousand miles away. One private is simply not worth a squad.

Anderson: This one is. He's worth a lot more than that. Which is why I'm sending you. You're the best field officer there.

(Miller Shrugs.)

Scene 1: Gen Marshall's office – War Department

(Gen Marshall stands next to his conference table, reading the Ryan brothers' files. Gen Marshall puts down the file.)

Marshall: *(softly)* God damn it!

One-armed colonel: All four of them were in the same company in the 29th Infantry⁽¹⁾ but we split them up after the Sullivan brothers died on the Juneau.

Marshall: Any contact with the fourth brother, James?

One-armed colonel: No, Sir. He was dropped about thirty miles inland, near Ramelle. That's still deep behind German lines. *(Gen Marshall hardens.)*

Marshall: Well, if he's alive, we're going to send someone to get him the hell out of there. That's just what the General's staff wanted to hear.



Scene 3: Bridge – Ramelle

([Miller's men] eyes remain glued to Ryan as he makes it to the barricade. He salutes Miller.)

Ryan: I'm Ryan, Sir. You wanted to see me?

(Miller looks at Ryan for a moment. Ryan waits. Miller hesitates, searching for words. Then he speaks gently but clearly.)

Miller: Private, I've got some bad news for you. Your brothers have been killed in action.

(The life instantly drains from Ryan. His breath comes hard. Somehow he remains upright.)

Ryan: All three?

Miller: Yes.

(Ryan sways. The paratroop-

ers and Miller's men are stunned at the news. They look at Ryan, there's nothing else they can do.)

Miller: We've been sent to get you out of here. You're going home.

(They all turn and see Ryan standing there.)

Miller: Come on, Private, you're going home.

(Ryan jerks away from Miller.)

Ryan: No, Sir.

(All eyes are on Miller and Ryan. Miller remains patient.)

Miller: Private. I'm sorry about your brothers, but staying here and getting yourself killed isn't going to help.

Ryan: Sir, if the Krauts⁽⁶⁾ are holding this bridge when the divi-

sion shows up, our guys are going to be sitting ducks⁽⁷⁾.

Miller: This bridge cannot be held. The Germans have two companies less than three miles from here. They have tanks.

Ryan: Sir, I'm still not going. *(Miller speaks with restrained, but growing, anger.)*

Miller: Private, if you want to commit suicide, that's your choice, but you're going to have to wait until after I get you back to the beach. And you're not going to take these men with you.

(Ryan stands eye-to-eye with Miller.)

Ryan: I'm not leaving, Sir.

Movie of the Week

Some would recommend that viewers close their eyes during the long opening scene of the *Saving Private Ryan*. That would be a mistake.

It's horrible; it's bloody; it's carnage.

It's a portrayal of fear, courage and raw coincidence, but it's also one of the most powerful pieces of cinematography ever.

There are many scenes that have stayed with me ever since I first saw this unforgettable film – perhaps Spielberg's best ever.

Tom Hanks, who typically plays a moral and honest character, is cast perfectly as Capt Miller, a soldier's soldier who is charged with the onerous task of rescuing a private from behind enemy lines.

Private Ryan, though staged in 1998, is an inspirational battle film: war has never been so realistic.



Vocabulary

1. infantry: an army unit consisting of soldiers who fight on foot

2. take over for somebody: to get into one's hold or possession by voluntary action

3. parachuted: here refers to jump from an airplane with a parachute

4. spit it out: to express straightly what you think

5. crapola: rubbish or non-

sense

6. Krauts: often used as a disparaging term for a German

7. sitting ducks: an easy target or victim

(By Huang Daohen)

Chinglish story

Here is a letter from a *Beijing Today* reader who wanted to further discuss the differences between “woman” and “female”, a hot topic we discussed on July 6 (Issue 322).

This column focuses on Chinglish mistakes in our daily life. If you have any experiences to share, send them to Gan Tian at gantian@ynet.com.

Again, female or woman?

By Mike Matloff

The debate over whether to use “female” or “woman” before a job title is a longstanding one, and there are good reasons to support both sides of the argument. The author makes some excellent points in support of the use of “woman” in this situation. Allow me to provide some evidence that favors the use of “female.”

The use of “female” adds a certain amount of equality that cannot be achieved by using “woman.” The key point is this: when discussing traditionally female roles now occupied by men, we usually use “male.” The terms “man nurse” and “man secretary” are relatively rare, whereas “male nurse” and “male secretary” are quite common. (Google, for example, returns 335,000 results for “male nurse” but only 15,300 for “man nurse.” For “male secretary” Google reports 32,600 results, while for “man secretary” Google reports only 14,900.)

Thus, when discussing a traditionally male role that is occupied by a woman, it seems only fair to use “female” rather than “woman.” To say “woman president” while at the same time saying “male nurse” seems somehow unfair.

Moreover, when men wish to disparage women, they usually use the attributive form of “woman,” as in “woman driver” from a stereotypical view that most women are bad drivers. For this purpose, “female driver” seems less commonly used. Google, again, returns 58,700 results for “crazy woman driver” but only 274 results for “crazy female driver.” Results for “female nurse” and “female teacher” far outweigh those for “woman nurse” and “woman teacher” respectively.

I attribute this disparity to how “nurse” and “teacher” have traditionally been female roles.

Blacklist

Beijing Today has come up with Blacklist, a new column of words or phrases commonly misused by Chinese speakers. If you’re planning to be an English teacher, reporter or employee of a multinational company, then this page is your new best friend. Watch for it each week.

By Shida Zhu

1. To step-up monitoring of capital flow

It is perfectly right to say “step up,” meaning enhancing efforts to monitor capital flow. When you say “step-up” it is the noun form of “to step up.” So, it is wrong to use the noun form of “step-up” as the verb itself. Similarly wrong is the way to say “to set-up.” You will have to say “to set up.” For instance, a sentence like this “Nasdaq plans to setup a Beijing office” is wrong.

2. In the remained two years of the Bush administration

Can you find what is wrong with this sentence? Everything in it apparently looks so perfect, but, there is an error that can hardly be discernible. The verb “remain” is an intransitive verb. It means two years that remain. So, you will have to say, “In the remaining two years of the Bush administration.”

3. As early as the first half of 2008

The phrase “as early as” should be followed by an adverbial of time. So, you will have to say “As early as in the first half of 2008.” Similarly, you will not say “as early as 2008,” but “as

early as in 2008.”

4. The newly release of the book

The writer is confused here with the functions of the words. “Release” in this case is a noun. So, the attributive should be “new” instead of “newly.” It should be “The new release of the book.” In English, when nouns are suffixed with “-ly” they become adjectives, for instance, manly, womanly; when adjectives are suffixed with “-ly”, they become adverbs, for instance, newly. You may say “the newly released book.”

5. I have some glasses I rec-

ommend you wear.

First of all, the sentence structure of this sentence is extremely poor. It is not idiomatic. The proper way of expressing this idea may be “I have some glasses to recommend to you to wear.” So, missing the infinitive “to” before “wear” is simply unforgivable.

6. The fair will show Chinese brands as well as bringing international brands.

When writing in English, you have to always be aware of the grammatical function of each word and its structure. The fair

will show Chinese brands. It will bring international brands to it. So, the verb “show” and the verb “bring” are the same. You cannot turn “bring” into a gerund. The sentence should be, “The fair will show Chinese brands as well as international brands.”

7. There don't have to be winners or losers.

It is only people who may “not do” something. For instance, You don't have to go to the fair. If “there” serves as the subject, you may not use the form of “don't.” The idea should be, “There will not necessarily be winners or losers.”

Chinglish on the way

This column aims to identify Chinglish in public areas. If you see any Chinglish signs, please take a picture and send it to gantian@ynet.com together with your name and address.

No thoroughfare

By Derrick Sobodash

If the cute icons on Beijing's signs don't render them immediately endearing to travelers, the nonsense printed will.

A prime example is one of the many constructions currently in the city's Temple of Confucius, “No thoroughfare.” This sign left this writer scratching his head for quite a while.

The problem here is that this sign's English says nothing even close to what its Chinese does.

A “thoroughfare” is a street with openings at both ends, as opposed to a cul de sac, or dead end: a street with an opening at only one end. When you say “No thoroughfare,” it sounds like it should have the same meaning.

The Chinese says something much different. The first two characters, *jìn zhǐ*, mean to prohibit something, and the next two, *tōng xíng*, mean traffic.

This gets our translation to “Traffic is prohibited,” but that is still an



Photo by Derrick Sobodash

unacceptable English rendering. “Prohibited” helps to indicate an action is forbidden – as opposed to impossible – but “traffic” has the same problem as “thoroughfare,” it is moving from point A to point B. If a native speaker saw this sign, he would assume this is a shortcut one is forbidden to take.

What the sign really needs to say is “No entry.” Since the area beyond this sign is completely off limits, one could also post a sign that says, “Off limits!” All of these would be readily understood by native speakers.

When translating Chinese to English, translating the meaning of the message is far more important than the words one selects for it.



Photo by Jean-Francois Papet

Digital picture fast flushing

By Jean-Francois Papet

For me, walking along the streets and markets is the best way to discover real life in a city, in any country. You see the true life of its dwellers. You also find funny situations or advertisements like this one I spotted with my cousin, an English teacher visiting Beijing, in a street near Jingshan Park's west gate. Nothing is wrong with it, but I suggest young Chinese students participate correcting these mistakes for the benefit of shops owners.

For the translation of this advertisement it should be:

1. Digital pictures, fast printing
- Or
2. Digital pictures, fast processing

CFP Photo



SPORTS ARENA

WEEKLY!
"POOL TOURNEY"
TIME: EVERY WEDNESDAY 8 PM

CHAO YANG PARK EAST GUAN HU GARDEN TOWER #1



朝阳公园桥东路北观湖国际大厦写字楼 | 号首层



59283045 / 65381691 / 13901087774

Friday, July 20



Exhibition

Bubble Bath

— Ji Xiaofeng Oil Painting

Where: Beijing Central Art Gallery,
02 Riverville Square, Tianzhu, Shunyi
When: Daily 9am-8pm, until
June 27

Admission: Free

Tel: 6450 8483, 6450 8646

Solo Exhibition for

Nacho Murillo

The number of cups we see are not necessarily the subject of Nacho Murillo's paintings, which are non-representational and explore "space." The cups appear symbolically as the marker of seeking a language beyond form. Murillo will be experimenting

with the idea of reaching but not touching during his Beijing journey.

Where: NY Arts Beijing Space, 318

Art Garden, Hegezhuang, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10am-4pm, until

July 29

Admission: Free

Tel: 8457 3298, 134 3951 8846

Outdoor

The 2nd Tibet Namtso Lake

Walking Convention

Cost: 4,500 yuan (Leave Beijing for Lhasa by train on July 31 and come back on August 11) or 8,000 yuan (Leave Beijing for Lhasa by air on August 3 and returns August 9)

Tel: 8489 6319

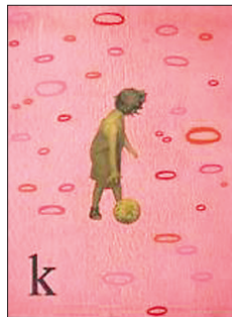
(China Volkssport Association)

Saturday, July 21

Exhibition

1st MAAPS International

Printmaking Exhibition



Fifty-six internationally recognized printmakers from six countries, are participating in the exhibition. Most notable amongst the exhibitors are Sean Caulfield and Otis Tamasauskas (Canada), Wu Changjiang and Jianfei Kang (China), Keisei Kobayashi and Seiko Kawachi (Japan), Kim, Seung-Yeon and Um, Jeong Ho (Korea), Stephen Mumberton and Rebecca Salter (UK), David Mohallatee and Andrew Decaen (USA).

Where: Red Gate Gallery, Dongbianmen Watchtower, Chongwen

When: Daily 10am-5pm, until July 31

Admission: Free

Tel: 6525 1005

Wall – The Photography of Wang Zi

Where: 798 Photo Gallery, No 4

Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 10am-6pm, until

August 10

Admission: Free

Tel: 6438 1784, 6437 5284

Movie

Le gendarme de Saint-Tropez



An ambitious police officer, Cruchot, is transferred from France to St Tropez. He's struggling with persistent nude swimmers, but even more with his teenage daughter, who's trying to impress her rich friends by telling them her father is a millionaire and owns a yacht in the harbor. Cruchot gets drawn into it when he tries to cover for her when a friend 'lends' the car of her assumed father.

Where: French Culture Center, 18 Guangcai International Apartments, Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

Sunday, July 22

Exhibition

Black White and Gray



From the 1980s, there is an obvious existing fact – black, white, grey colors are always chosen to be used on the paintings, photographs and video works by many artists of the time. The group exhibition features artists including Zhang Xiaogang, Fang Lijun, Yang Shaobin and Yang Fudong.

Where: The second and third floor, Today

Art Museum, No 32 Baiziwan Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 9am-5pm, until August 5

Admission: Free

Tel: 5876 0011

Clean the Corner – Exhibition of

contemporary art work from Ma Liuming,

Zhang Donghong, Xiao Se and He Hongzhi



Where: The Fifth Element Gallery, No 4

Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang

When: Daily 11am-6pm, until August 17

Admission: Free

Tel: 6432 1388

Piers Midwinter & Katarzyna Chocian



Where: NY Arts Beijing Space, 318 Art Garden, Hegezhuang, Chaoyang

When: Tue-Sun 10am-4pm, until August 20

Admission: Free

Tel: 8457 3298, 1343 951 8846

Movie

Taxi

In Marseilles (France), skilled pizza delivery boy Daniel changes jobs to become a taxi driver, but his real dream is to become an F1 racecar driver. Caught by the police for a huge speeding infraction, he will help Emilien, a loser inspector on the track of German bank robbers, so he doesn't lose his license and his job.

Where: French Culture Center, 18 Guangcai International Apartments, Gongti Xi Lu, Chaoyang

When: 7:30pm

Admission: 10-20 yuan

Tel: 6553 2627

Stage in August

Music

Yndi Halda Beijing Concert

Who: Yndi Halda (Enjoy the Eternal Bliss in English), a rock band from the UK

Where: Star Live Music Hall, 3F Candy (Tangguo) Xinguang Xianchang, 79 Heping Xi Jie, Dongcheng

When: 8:30pm, August 3

Admission: 60-80 yuan

Broadway Music Opera

Mamma Mia!



This hilarious musical comedy revolves around Sophie, who is trying to find out who her real father is so that he can give her away at her wedding. It turns out that the mother, Donna, had intimate relations with three people during the summer of love, and the father could be any one of the three. So Donna surreptitiously invites all three of them to the wedding.

Who: Catherine Johnson, Benney Anderson, Bjorn Ulvaeus, Stig Anderson

Where: Poly Theater, No 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng

When: 7:30pm, August 7-19

Admission: 180-2,008 yuan

Dream Back Spain

— Recital of Classical Guitar

Who: The Beijing Philharmonic Guitar Trio

Where: Zhongshan Music Hall, inside Zhongshan Park, Dongcheng

When: 7:30pm, August 16

Admission: 10-100 yuan

Drama

The Dinner Game



A Chinese adaptation of Francis Veber's play *Le Diner de Cons*. It follows the story of Pierre Brochant, a successful Parisian publisher, who attends a weekly "idiots' dinner." Each guest must bring along an "idiot" for the amusement of the other invitees. At the end of the dinner the evening's "champion idiot" is selected. Brochant manages to find an exceptional idiot: Francois Pignona, a taxation bureau employee with a passion for building replicas with matchsticks.

Who: Dashan and Guo Donglin

Where: Poly Theater, No 14 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng

When: 7:30pm, August 29-31

Admission: 100-680 yuan

Super Baby

The play is about a baby panda who is going into an extraordinary experience with both Korean and Chinese kids.

Where: Nationality Theater, No 49, Fuxingmen Nei Dajie, Xicheng

When: 7:30pm, August 5-26

Admission: 40-380 yuan

Tel: 5905 9082

(By Qiu Jiaoning)